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Asian Papers Reflect Concern Gulf War May Widen

BK1901075691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0734 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Jan 19 (AFP)—Asian newspapers Saturday reflected concern that Iraq's missile attacks on Israel could widen the conflagration in the Gulf.

"If Israel retaliates, the current war may develop into the fifth Middle East war," cautioned the ASAHI SHIMBUN, which along with other leading Japanese dailies urged Israel to continue its self-restraint.

Australia's MELBOURNE AGE warned that a retaliatory strike would play right into the hands of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. "Unless cool heads prevail in Israel—and late last night it was far from certain they would—Saddam Husayn might yet win a crucial trick in the ghastly game being played out in the Middle East."

The editorials were written before a new round of missile attacks was reported Saturday in Tel Aviv, a development that some newspapers had warned would strain Israel's patience past the limit.

Washington may have restrained Israel from immediate retaliation, the TIMES OF INDIA said, "but the restraint may not hold if a renewed attack inflicts severe punishment." Most newspapers in India—where the populace is deeply divided over the Gulf conflict—stuck to analysis of the latest developments and avoided taking sides. THE HINDU called the attacks a "disturbing twist" which could draw Israel into the conflict, a development that could embarrass the Arab members of the U.S.-led coalition arrayed against Iraq. The INDIAN EXPRESS agreed, calling the missle attacks "more significant in political than in military terms."

Ambivalence about the Gulf conflict was reflected in the press of some of Asia's Muslim nations as well as in socialist Vietnam, which called on the United Nations to intervene swiftly to end the "catastrophe."

"The Gulf war should not be considered as reasonable and inevitable. This war was launched for reasons and motives that are not in the interests of the world and even contrary to the aspirations of nations," the Communist Party daily NHAN DAN said. "Mankind now finds itself at a time full of tests. It is necessary to swiftly douse the flames of this catastrophe. Negotiations are not too late. Negotiations will never be too late for the interests of the world."

Despite Dhaka's official support for the multinational forces in Saudi Arabia, a few Bangladeshi newspapers came out in open support of Mr. Husayn, calling him a "Muslim hero."

Indonesia's staunchly nationalist MERDEKA daily accused U.S. President George Bush of "arrogance and snobbery" because Iraqi forces were able to mount counterattacks Friday despite the claimed massive success of the U.S. first strike. But most papers in the world's largest Muslim country stuck firmly to Jakarta's neutral position in the Gulf war, while two suggested that the world should attend to the Palestinian problem as soon as the armed conflict ends. "It should be the starting point to a fair solution to the entire Middle East problem," said the leading KOMPAS daily.

In Muslim Malaysia, however, the NEW STRAITS TIMES was firmly behind the U.S.-led multinational forces seeking to oust Iraq from Kuwait. The English-language daily urged the Malaysian Government not to waver in its support of the U.S.-led forces even if Israel retaliated against Iraq for Friday's missile attack. "Malaysia should not accept the Iraqi attempt to link its invasion and occupation of Kuwait with a 'jihad' (holy war) against Israel because of the Palestinian issue. They are two separate issues," said the paper, which often reflects official views. Mr. Husayn's attempt to portray himself as a champion of the Palestinian cause was simply an attempt to "cloak his aggression" against Kuwait, the papers said. "How is the Palestinian cause advanced by an attack on Kuwait?" The paper asked. "This war has nothing to do with Islam or a battle against American imperialism."

The weekend AUSTRALIAN warned in an editorial against a growing anti-war movement, saying the attacks on Israel brought added proof of how dangerous Mr. Husayn was. "In occupied Kuwait the atrocities committed by Iraqi troops and documented by Amnesty International would only be too familiar to those few who have not looked the other way during the 11-year rule of Husayn." The Western peace protesters "who assail the allied bearers of a new good, rather than the perpetrators of familiar evil, have themselves become a force for ill."

Japan

Tokyo Condemns Iraqi Missile Attack on Tel Aviv

OW2301035691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0335 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO—Japan on Wednesday condemned an Iraqi missile attack against Israel in which three people died, and praised Israel for refraining from launching a counterattack.

"Israel has done nothing against Iraq," Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said, calling the attack, which occurred Tuesday evening local time, indiscriminate and unprovoked.

Three people died of heart failure and 70 were injured when the Scud missile slammed into a two-story apartment house in Tel Aviv, Israeli military authorities said.

The missile attack was Iraq's third against Israel since the U.S.-led multinational forces started air raids against Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait six days ago. It was the first to result in direct fatalities.

An Israeli military spokesman said following the attack that Israel must assess the timing of a counterattack. He indicated that Israel will avoid hasty action due to the complexity of the situation.

Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe, in a separate statement from Sakamoto's, urged Israel to continue exercising self-restraint to avoid prolonging or complicating the war in the Persian Gulf region.

An Israeli response to Iraqi provocation could jeopardize the multinational coalition against Iraq joined by Arab nations, he indicated.

Foreign Minister Calls for Israeli Restraint

OW1901114191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1107 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 19 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Saturday condemned Iraq's second unprovoked missile attack on Israel earlier in the day, but called on the Jewish state to continue exercising military restraint.

"We deplore the act of firing missiles at a country which is not even a combatant," Nakayama told reporters after discussing the incident by telephone with Japanese Ambassador to Israel Sadakazu Taniguchi. "The Japanese Government strongly requests the Israeli Government to exercise restraint," the foreign minister added.

Nakayama was speaking several hours after a number of Iraqi missiles hit the Israeli city of Tel Aviv early Saturday morning local time. The missiles, like those launched by Iraq on Friday, reportedly did not carry chemical warheads.

Asked to assess the development of the conflict, Nakayama said, "it is beginning to appear as if this war is going to be a bit more drawn out."

Nakayama, who will visit Moscow Monday to Thursday, said he will discuss with Soviet Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh and President Mikhail Gorbachev how best the war can be brought to an early end.

Meanwhile, Israeli Ambassador to Japan Nahum Eshkol met with reporters and condemned the Iraqi missile attack, saying it "displays utter disdain to the most elementary norms of international law and behavior."

"Israel has displayed self-restraint far beyond what can be expected of a country that is so maliciously attacked," Eshkol noted.

"The Government of Israel has reiterated its position that it reserves the right to respond to any attack against its territory and population," he warned. But the envoy did not say if Israel would continue to hold back from a retaliatory strike on Iraq as has been urged on it by the United States and other countries.

Some observers say such a move could split the fragile anti-Iraq coalition and spark another Arab-Israeli War.

Israeli Embassy First Secretary Amos Radian said Israel "fully understands the responsibility and problems of the allied coalition. "But we expect the world to understand the great risks that Israel is taking upon itself and the duty of the government to protect its citizens," Radian added.

Israeli Envoy Blasts Iraqi Attack on Tel Aviv

OW2301062591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0538 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO—Israeli Ambassador to Japan Nahum Eshkol on Wednesday blasted Iraq's most recent missile attack on Tel Aviv that resulted in the deaths of three civilians, calling Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's behavior "vicious and brutal."

Speaking to reporters in Tokyo, Eshkol said, "Once again, Saddam Husayn has demonstrated his vicious and brutal behavior by aiming at civilian targets, inflicting indiscriminatory death and destruction, disregarding the elementary norms of international law."

The Iraqi missile attack against Israel on Tuesday evening in Tel Aviv resulted in three elderly people dying of heart attacks and 70 civilian casualties, including a baby suffering a head injury.

Denying the attempt by Husayn to drag Israel into the week-old war would break the international unity against him, Eshkol said, "I believe that the world and the Japanese people understand now the true nature of Saddam Husayn and his closest ally, the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization), whose policy from its very inception was the destruction of Israel."

Amid considerable international appeals for Israel to refrain from retaliation for this attack, Eshkol reiterated, "Israel maintains its legitimate right to defend itself in a time and manner that it will see fit."

Eshkol visited the Japanese Foreign Ministry later in the day and spent over an hour in discussions with parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Muneo Suzuki. Eshkol told Suzuki that Israel's patience and restraint were reaching their limits.

Officials quoted Eshkol as saying that Israel has a duty to protect its own people but is reserving its right to defend itself. He said that Israel alone will decide when and how it exercises that right.

Suzuki expressed sympathy and regret over the loss of life from the latest Iraqi missile attack, but asked Israel to again refrain from retaliation in order to avoid any prolongation or expansion of the Persian Gulf war.

Spokesman: No Patriot Missiles to Gulf Forces

OW2201153691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1519 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—Japan does not plan to supply U.S.-developed Patriot missiles to the coalition fighting Iraq in the event that supplies of the highly effective antimissile weapon run low, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday.

Japan is the only other country that produces Patriots as a full missile system under a license from the United States.

"The fact is that we will not include any sort of weapons in our contributions" to the allied war effort in the Persian Gulf, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Taizo Watanabe said.

The government is now preparing a multibillion dollar package of cash and materials for the multinational forces that will supplement its prewar contribution of some 2 billion dollars.

Watanabe made the comment in response to a question posed during a regular meeting with foreign correspondents.

Although U.S. officials have stated that they have more than enough Patriots on hand in the Gulf to deal with the Iraqi threat, the Pentagon reportedly has asked Raytheon Corp. of the U.S. to step up its production of the weapon.

Defense Agency sources said that while the hardware of the Japanese-made system and its U.S. version is almost the same, the U.S. has consistently upgraded the software of its system.

While the U.S. version may now have greater speed, height, and directional capability, the Japanese missile is still considered effective in intercepting incoming missiles, they said.

Foreign Ministry and Defense Agency sources said that while there may not be legal barriers to Japan providing Patriots, such a move would be politically difficult to implement.

Japan allows for the transfer of Japanese military technology to the United States but prohibits sales of weapons to countries engaged in international conflicts under a 1967 government policy banning arms exports.

The supply of Patriot missiles to the multinational forces is hard to imagine, one government official said, noting that the government concluded recently that it would even be improper for Japan to supply gas masks overseas if they are to be used for "military purposes."

Tokyo To Donate $9 Billion More to Gulf Forces

OW2301093091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0812 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO - Japan will announce Wednesday plans to pay an additional 9 billion dollars in financial support for the U.S.-led coalition of forces fighting Iraq in the Persian Gulf, officials said. This will bring the total amount of Japan's contributions to allied Gulf efforts to 11 billion dollars.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will announce the fresh Japanese aid package in a press conference in the evening.

Prior to the announcement, Kaifu is holding a series of talks with cabinet members and senior officials of his ruling Liberal Democratic Party. Among them will be Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, following his return to Tokyo from New York after attending a meeting of finance ministers and central governors of the group of seven major economic powers. Hashimoto, who is due home around 8 P.M., discussed possible additional Japanese support for the Gulf forces with U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady.

Prior to the start of hostilities a week ago Japan had pledged 2 billion dollars worth of assistance for the multinational forces, and another 2 billion dollars in economic aid for nations suffering most from the conflict, mainly Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey.

Government sources say the United States has requested Japan to shoulder 20 percent of the cost of the war, which they said is estimated to amount to 500 million dollars a day. If Japan paid 20 percent of that amount, its contribution would come to 100 million dollars a day, or about 3 billion dollars a month.

Meanwhile, the Japanese Government is also expected to finalize a decision Wednesday on dispatching Self-Defense Force (SDF) transport aircraft to the Middle East to help evacuate Egyptians and Asians who have fled to Jordan from Iraq and Kuwait.

On Tuesday, the Vice Minister of Defense, Tomoharu Yoda, proposed sending five C-130 transport planes accompanied by 200 SDF personnel to help ferry refugees from Jordan to Cairo. Two private airlines, Japan airlines and All Nippon Airways, have also agreed to send aircraft to help the evacuation efforts of international relief organizations.

The plans to augment Japan's contributions to the allied forces have come under fire from opposition party leaders Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Japan Socialist Party, and Koshiro Ishida, head of the Buddhist-backed Komeito, who want Japan to avoid military involvement.

Japan's post-war Constitution bans the use of force to resolve international disputes. Article 9 of the Constitution renouncing war has been widely interpreted as barring overseas dispatch of the SDF for military missions, though disaster relief efforts and limited scientific research are regarded as permissible.

A government-proposed bill that would have allowed noncombatant military personnel to serve in the Gulf was dropped after failing to make progress in the Diet last fall following contentious debate and strong objections from opposition parties. At the time opinion polls registered broad support for supplying personnel to aid international peacemaking efforts, but rejected participation by the SDF.

More Aid to 'Affected Countries' in Gulf Planned

OW2301112091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1048 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO - Japan is considering providing an additional 1 billion dollars in financial assistance to countries facing economic difficultes in the wake of the Persian Gulf war, Foreign Ministry sources said Wednesday.

If the plan is realized, this will bring to 3 billion dollars the total amount of economic assistance Japan has promised to affected countries.

Japan has already pledged 2 billion dollars in economic assistance to affected countries, mainly Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey, most of which are loans. In addition, Japan has promised 2 billion dollars in financial assistance to the U.S.-led coalition of multinational forces fighting Iraq.

On Wednesday, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu was to announce that Japan will give an additional 9 billion dollars in financial support to the multinational forces. This will bring the total of Japan's financial contributions promised to allied Gulf efforts and affected countries to 14 billion dollars.

Tokyo To Give Relief Goods to Refugees in Jordan

OW1901151991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1405 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 19 KYODO—Japan has decided to extend a package of relief supplies such as blankets and food to refugees in Jordan who fled from Iraq and occupied Kuwait after the start of the Persian Gulf war, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said Saturday.

The officials said the decision was made in compliance with the Jordan Government's request. As many as 45,000 refugees had entered the country since the Gulf war started on Thursday, government sources said.

The emergency aid contains 1,320 blankets and 132 oil cookers, and is worth about 12 million yen, the officials said.

The Japanese Government also plans to extend a total of 9,600 tins of canned fish to Jordan, all of which were presented by the Japanese people, they said.

The relief supplies will be sent to Jordan through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Japan has already decided to offer another 6,000 blankets to Jordan at the request of the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO).

According to the ministry, an estimated 110,000 or 120,000 people seeking refuge have gathered nearby the border with Jordan since the war started.

Indirect Taxes Studied as Source of Gulf Aid

OW2001071691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0614 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 20 KYODO—Japan is considering raising tobacco taxes along with petroleum tax hikes to finance additional assistance to the multinational forces in the Persian Gulf, a senior official of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said Sunday.

"Raises of taxes on tobacco, which is a luxury, would not provoke any opposition," said the official, who asked for anonymity.

The LDP's Tax System Research Council is expected to study the proposed new indirect tax, after the amount of the additional financial aid is determined at a meeting between Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady in New York, the LDP official said. The finance minister is in New York to attend a meeting of top finance officials from the Group of Seven industrialized nations Sunday and Monday.

As sources of additional aid to the forces, LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa discussed plans to issue debt-financing bonds and increase petroleum taxes to cover fund shortfalls caused by contributions to the forces in the Persian Gulf. But higher taxes on gasoline and other petroleum products could have adverse effects on utility costs and other prices, and the issuance of debt-financing bonds will leave fiscal burdens to future generations, the LDP official said.

"This makes tobacco tax hikes one of the best options to secure funds for financial assistance involving the Gulf war," he said.

Tax revenues from tobacco sales is estimated to be 957 billion yen in fiscal 1990, double the petroleum tax revenues of 453 billion yen.

After the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in early August, the Japanese Government pledged to contribute 2 billion dollars to the U.S.-led multilateral forces opposing Iraq and the same amount to the three frontline countries—Turkey, Egypt, and Jordan—hard hit by the trade embargo against Iraq.

Airlines Agree To Help Airlift Gulf Refugees

OW2101140891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1244 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 21 KYODO—The heads of Japan Airlines (JAL) and All Nippon Airways (ANA) on Monday agreed to send chartered planes to the Persian Gulf region to help airlift war refugees, Transport Ministry officials said.

Transport Minister Akio Muraoka asked JAL President Matsuo Toshimitsu and ANA President Akio Kondo to be prepared to send relief planes on behalf of international organizations.

The Transport Ministry has already given its assurances that the government will make every effort to secure the safety of such flights.

The ministry also said the government will bear the cost of war insurance premiums for the chartered planes and will have government officials on board the special flights.

Officials of the Transport Ministry assume chartered planes will be sent to Cairo, which is considered to be relatively safe.

Meanwhile, Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said the same day the government is continuing to study the possibility of using Self-Defense Forces (SDF) planes to transport refugees.

The Diet has been discussing whether to send SDF rescue aircraft to the Persian Gulf region but the issue is sensitive because of Japan's war-renouncing constitution.

The Foreign Ministry said Monday that about 66,000 refugees have fled Iraq and Kuwait to neighboring countries since the war broke out last Thursday. Some 110,000 to 120,000 Egyptians and Asians are reportedly waiting to be evacuated from Iraq to Jordan.

The office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO) told the Foreign Ministry that 45,000 people, including 8,000 Egyptians waiting to return home by sea, have fled from Iraq to Jordan.

UNDRO also said 8,000 Iraqis have taken refuge in Iran and that 13,300 people have returned to Egypt from Iraq, Kuwait, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia.

Transport Ministry officials said the government has not decided how it will transport refugees from Jordan to Cairo.

Leaders View Sending Military Planes to Mideast

OW2201094191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0849 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—Ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) leaders on Tuesday held a meeting with senior officers of Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to discuss the possible dispatch of military aircraft to transport refugees from the war in the Persian Gulf, party sources said.

LDP General Secretary Ichiro Ozawa and two other party executives summoned top defense officials including Vice Defense Minister Tomoharu Yoda and Air Self-Defense Force Chief of Staff Gen. Akio Suzuki to party headquarters, according to the sources.

The defense officers told the LDP executives they are considering providing five Lockheed C-130H transport aircraft currently stationed in Komaki Air Base, Aichi Prefecture, for shuttling refugees between Amman and Cairo, the sources said. The two sides also discussed how to use the civilian airplanes of Japan Airlines Co. (JAL) and All Nippon Airways Co. (ANA), they said.

The two airlines earlier agreed to a government request that they supply aircraft to a proposed refugee evacuation service as part of Japan's contribution to the U.S.-led alliance waging war on Iraq.

According to the sources, the LDP and SDF officials talked about the possibility of cases where civilian aircraft could not be used because of military action in the area.

Earlier Tuesday, some LDP Diet members held a meeting with Defense Agency Defense Policy Bureau Chief Shigeru Hatakeyama, who estimated that the transport of refugees by five SDF aircraft would require 200 personnel. The LDP lawmakers at the meeting demanded a decision by the government to send the SDF aircraft, the sources said.

Also on Tuesday, Transport Minister Kanezo Muraoka said the International Organization for Migration (IOM), a Geneva-based humanitarian group, has asked the Foreign Ministry to supply planes to rescue refugees from the Gulf area, specifically to carry Vietnamese workers to Hanoi.

The question of allowing SDF personnel to serve abroad is an extremely sensitive issue because Japan's war-renouncing constitution bans the use of force as a means of solving international disputes.

The LDP and the government of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, under pressure from Washington amid the Gulf crisis, failed last autumn to pass a bill to send SDF personnel overseas, amid strong opposition in the Diet and among the general public.

All the opposition parties except the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) have announced their opposition to the current fresh move by the LDP to send SDF airplanes to the Middle East.

LDP officials say cash aid to the anti-Iraq alliance, which has amounted to 2 billion U.S. dollars so far and is expected to be increased by another 10 billion dollars, is insufficient to avert criticism from the U.S. and Europe and that a substantial personnel "contribution" is needed.

Kaifu has argued in the current Diet session that the proposed use of the military abroad for refugee service is a "humanitarian" act, while opposition leaders categorize it as a dangerous precedent for Japan's direct involvement in international conflicts.

Government sources have said they are seeking legal basis for the SDF's proposed refugee mission, calling it an "emergency drill" covered by Article 100 of the Self Defense Forces Law.

Opposition leaders and some legal experts say the move is a distortion of the law and illegal, as the SDF was not set up originally to serve defense operations outside Japan.

IOM Requests Planes To Airlift Gulf Refugees

OW2201044591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0431 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—Japanese Transport Minister Kanezo Muraoka said on Tuesday the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has sent a request to the Foreign Ministry for the provision of planes to rescue refugees from the Gulf war, beginning around January 25 or 26.

Muraoka told a press conference after a cabinet meeting that the ministry received a request on Monday evening for assistance in the transport of 962 Vietnamese nationals from Cairo to Hanoi. He said the Transport Ministry is asking Japan Airlines (JAL) and All Nippon Airways (ANA) to indicate whether they can provide planes to meet the request.

"We've got the airlines studying it, but we'll have to get it done on time," Muraoka said.

The ministry estimates it would take three jumbo jets to transport the Vietnamese.

A ministry spokesman said the Vietnamese apparently left Iraq when hostilities broke out in the Gulf, travelling via road to Amman in Jordan and then by sea to Egypt.

A JAL spokesman said the airline is trying to obtain guarantees that it would be safe to fly between Cairo and Hanoi and will respond to the request within Tuesday.

Red Cross Team Leaving for Refugee Camp in Syria

OW2001075091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0722 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 20 KYODO—A 10-member Japanese Red Cross Society medical team is being sent to Syria to care for refugees fleeing the fighting in Iraq, Japanese Red Cross headquarters said Sunday

According to a message from the Japanese medical team in Geneva, it will leave Sunday evening for an International Red Cross refugee camp in Syria.

The Japanese team of doctors and nurses, led by surgeon Masataka Kono of the Japanese Red Cross Hospital in Tokyo, has been standing by in Geneva since arriving Wednesday. Their mission will last one month.

The Japanese have brought along medicine to treat victims of chemical weapons, as well as antibiotics and surgical supplies, to minister to refugees fleeing from the war to drive Iraq out of Kuwait.

Companies Announce Resumption of Gulf Oil Imports

OW1801144091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1412 GMT 18 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 18 KYODO—Japanese oil companies, including Showa Shell Sekiyu K.K. and Idemitsu Kosan Co., on Friday decided to resume Sunday or shortly thereafter the import of Gulf crude oil, suspended immediately after the outbreak of the Gulf war Thursday, company officials said.

The oil refiners reached the decision after such Gulf oil producing states as Iran and Qatar agreed to carry crude oil from their loading ports to safer waters east of the 52nd Degree of East Longitude in the Gulf on a shuttle basis and Japanese seamen and shipowners agreed to send ships to such waters in the center of the Gulf, the officials said.

Japanese-flagged and chartered tankers stopped sailing to Gulf loading ports as of the January 15 deadline for Iraqi troops to pull out of Kuwait, under an agreement between the All-Japan Seamen's Union and the labor relations departments of the two Japanese ocean shipping firms.

Japan has planned to import 400,000 barrels of crude oil per day from Iran throughout the first quarter of 1991. Iran will carry crude oil from its Kharg Island oil loading base to safer waters east of the 52nd Degree of East Longitude, using its own large tankers. Japanese-flagged or chartered tankers will take delivery of the crude from such shuttle tankers for transportation onward to Japan, the officials said.

Showa Shell Sekiyu K.K. has agreed to receive delivery of two large tanker loads of crude oil from Iran by the end of January. Other Japanese oil refiners are believed likely to follow suit. The shuttle transport service charge is about 1 dollar per barrel.

Japan has imported about 200,000 barrels of crude oil per day from Qatar, which has also agreed to offer such shuttle transportation service.

Idemitsu Kosan Co. said Qatar will carry crude oil from the Umm Sa'id oil loading base to oil-storing tankers afloat off Oman, using 250,000-ton tankers. Idemitsu-chartered tankers will receive oil from these "floating tanks."

Japanese oil industry sources said Saudi Arabia is likely to follow the lead of Iran and Qatar.

If Saudi Arabia also adopts the approach, Japan's crude imports from the Gulf area will recover to a level close to that prevailing immediately before the outbreak of the Gulf war, the sources said.

Oil Company To Shuttle Saudi Crude Via Red Sea

OW2101133591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1159 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 21 KYODO—Kyodo Oil Co. said Monday it has been allowed by Saudi Arabia's state-run oil company to shuttle crude oil from Saudi Arabia via the Red Sea.

The major oil importer said Saudi Arabian Oil Co. (Saudi Aramco) has informed it that it can load Saudi crude from Yambu al Bahr, a port city facing the Red Sea

Unable to enter the Persian Gulf due to the war between Iraq and multinational forces since last week, the company has explored the possibility of transporting crude from the Yambu port.

Meanwhile, Japanese oil importers are at a loss as to how to operate their oil tankers as developments unfold in the Gulf war.

Following Iraq's attacks on Israel last week, some importers have stopped using the Red Sea and the Suez Canal out of fear that Israel may soon enter the war.

Ace, an international shipping consortium between Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha Ltd., OOCL of Hong Kong, and NOL of Singapore, changed its plan to pass through the Suez on January 22 and decided instead to navigate via the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa.

But another international shipping consortium, Trio, established by Nippon Yusen K.K., Mitsui O.S.K. Lines Ltd., P and O and Ben Line of Britain, and Hapag Lloyd of Germany, will go ahead with its original plan to use the Suez following word that Tel Aviv will not immediately retaliate against Iraq.

But the company has yet to decide whether it will continue using the Suez route.

The company, which runs six lines a week to Europe and controls nearly 40 percent of cargo traffic between Asia and Europe, said it will raise rates if the war's expansion forces it to use the Cape Hope route, which is about a week longer than the Suez line.

Meanwhile, a Japanese seamen's union spurned a request from shipowners to relax a labor-management agreement reached last week to stop ships from operating west of 52 longitude in the Persian Gulf.

Representatives of shipowners asked crews to go to other ports in the area like ad Dawhah and Umm Said of Qatar, which are relatively safe. But The All Japan Seamen's Union rejected the proposal out of concern for safety.

Drops Plan To Import Saudi Oil

OW2201130791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1048 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—Kyodo Oil Co. said Tuesday it has dropped a plan to import crude oil from Saudi Arabia this month because of added expenses brought on by the war in the Persian Gulf.

Saudi Arabia's state-run oil company had allowed the company to shuttle crude oil from the country through the Red Sea.

Company officials said two chartered tankers in the Gulf have loaded crude oil in the United Arab Emirates, Iran, and Oman.

Petroleum industry sources said Kyodo Oil has apparently given up its plan to send ships to Saudi Arabia via the Red Sea because of the longer cruising time involved and added handling expenses.

Saudi Arabi charges an additional 1 dollar per barrel on oil loaded in the country. It also imposes 25 cents per barrel for the use of its pipeline.

Kyodo Oil has concluded a contract with Saudi Arabia's state-run oil company to import 100,000 barrels per day of oil.

The company said it will study whether to resume oil imports from Saudi Arabia in February.

Japanese tankers have been ordered to stay away from waters off the western coast of the Gulf because of the war.

Saudi Arabia To Compensate Shippers for Damages

OW2201130291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1213 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—Saudi Arabia has offered to compensate for possible damage to Japan's oil tankers caused by the Persian Gulf war, oil industry sources said Tuesday.

The Saudis also promised Nippon Oil Co., Cosmo Oil Co. and three other Japanese oil companies that they would supply them with 350,000 barrels of crude per day in February according to an existing bilateral long-term contract. The industry has yet to decide whether to accept the compensation offer.

The idea, put forward by Saudi Arabian Oil Co. (Saudi Aramco), the country's state-owned oil company, is apparently designed to encourage Japanese oil importers to resume oil shipments from Saudi ports in the Gulf.

In the wake of the outbreak of the Gulf war, Japanese oil companies stopped their crude shipments from Ra's Tannurah and other Saudi ports due to a domestic labor-management agreement to keep ships east of 52 degrees east longtitude because of the dangers involved.

Agencies Asked To Report Energy-Saving Plans

OW2201131691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1101 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—In response to mounting concern about crude oil supply amid the Persian Gulf war, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) requested other government ministries and agencies to present their respective energy-saving plans by the end of the month, ministry sources said Tuesday.

MITI will also conduct a survey on energy-saving efforts by the private sector, while sponsoring a series of exhibitions and symposiums on this theme in February to boost the awareness of the public regarding the importance of conserving energy.

The moves are being taken in line with a decision made last Friday by MITI's energy-saving promotion committee to further facilitate a package of energy-saving measures the committee drew up in October last year.

The energy-saving steps include requests that both the public and private sectors restrict indoor heating temperatures to 20 c., slash lighting by one-third, and generally improve energy management of buildings and industries. The committee also decided to call for shorter TV broadcasting hours, and for cutting lighting for signboards and outdoor decoration. It also urged businesses operating at night to close earlier. Among household measures proposed by the committee are a 20 c. ceiling for heating and voluntary limits on leisure driving.

MITI will promote these measures for the time being unless the International Energy Agency (IEA) meeting next Monday comes up with new internationally concerted steps or the Gulf war threatens oil supply by damaging crude oil production and transportation facilities.

The ministry's special survey will be conducted among about 80 local governments, some 1,600 companies, 400 buildings, 50 railway, bus, and taxi firms, and several hundred individual consumers to determine how far the general public is exercising energy saving, the sources said.

In February, designated "energy-saving month," there will be a string of exhibitions and symposiums to be held in Tokyo, Kobe, and other big cities under the ministry's auspices.

MITI Suspends Insurance Coverage for Gulf Area

OW1901103591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0847 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 19 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), saying it has decided to "be prudent in accepting trade insurance for the time being," in effect suspended coverage for the Persian Gulf area Saturday.

MITI did not specify the countries involved, but they are believed to include Saudi Arabia, Iran, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, and Syria.

MITI notified about 100 companies of the decision, including trading houses, manufacturers, and banks which trade with firms in the Middle East.

Many Japanese companies had already suspended exports to the Gulf countries before the decision, MITI officials said.

Trade with Iraq and Kuwait has been barred since last August in accordance with a United Nations embargo.

Sato Planning 'Stricter' Security Measures

OW2101134491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 21 KYODO - Justice Minister Megumu Sato said on Monday he will formulate a plan to establish an antiterrorist barrier at Narita airport and other points of entry around the nation.

Sato said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE that he wants to ensure there is thorough supervision of entry and exit points to prevent foreign activists from entering the country and Japanese activists from leaving. He said he is also emphasizing the importance of information gathering.

"Activists will try to stop Japan's aid to the multinational forces and sow confusion," Sato said. "There's a danger the Japanese Red Army will want to put in an appearance. We'll have to have more than the usual countermeasures."

Sato said stricter immigration procedures now causing delays and crowding at airports are necessary under the unusual circumstances.

"Within the framework of existing laws, we will take whatever measures we can, without going beyond the bounds of (the protection of) human rights," Sato said.

Citizens' Groups Stage Antiwar Protests

OW1901191991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1518 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 19 KYODO—Citizens' groups around Japan held outdoor rallies and marches—some of them obstructed by right-wing groups—on Saturday to protest the military action by the United States-led multinational forces against Iraq in the Persian Gulf.

Some 1,000 members of a local union backed by the Japan Socialist Party (JSP) rallied at a mall in central Sapporo, Hokkaido, to protest moves by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to send Self-Defense Forces (SDF) airplanes to the Gulf to assist in refugee relief. Speakers at the rally stressed the need to defend the nation's war-renouncing constitution.

The participants adopted a motion calling for an immediate end to hostilities in the Middle East. They later marched through the city where they were confronted by a group of right-wing activists condemning Japan's policy of not sending soldiers to the Gulf.

In Tokyo, a group of some 50 members of a citizens' group known as "Ribbon" formed human chains with colored ribbons in front of the U.S. Embassy and the Foreign Ministry in central Tokyo, chanting antiwar slogans. The group called on the U.S. Government to effect an immediate end to the Gulf conflict, and on the Japanese Government to drop its idea to send SDF planes to the Gulf.

Some 30 members of the Shin Nihon Fujin No Kai (New Japan Women's Society) distributed handbills urging the Japanese Government not to meddle in the Middle East war to passers-by in front of Ochanomizu Station in Tokyo.

Similar antiwar slogans were echoed by some 300 members of the citizens' league, including students and housewives with children, who paraded from the Defense Agency and the Foreign Ministry offices to the U.S. Embassy after gathering at Tokyo's Hibiya Park.

In Hiroshima, western Japan, some 30 members of a group called "Peace Link" gathered at the U.S. Military Ammunition Center in Kure calling on the U.S. not to send ammunition from the city which is known for being the first in the world to have suffered from an atomic bomb.

In a downtown antiwar campaign in the southern prefecture of Nagasaki, representatives of the local chapter of the Japan Congress Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikin) called on people to write to U.S. President George Bush to denounce him for initiating military raids on Baghdad. They criticized the government move to dispatch SDF planes to the Gulf as indicating Japan's cooperation in the U.S.-led military action.

Okinawans Stage Antiwar Rally in Naha

OW2201190891 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 22 Jan 91 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] In the midst of the Gulf war, which is becoming a long battle, the Prefectural People's Council To Defend the Constitution and To Oppose the Security Pact [Gokenhananpo], the Okinawa Chapter of the Japan Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, and the Center of Prefectural Councils of Trade Unions held a joint "Prefectural People's Rally To Oppose the Middle East War and To Demand an Immediate Cease-Fire" at Yogi Park in Naha City beginning at 1800 on 21 January. Some 2,500 people participated (according to organizers). They issued a strong appeal for an early settlement, in light of the fact that Okinawa is becoming a transit point for U.S. forces.

Representing the organizers, Zenshun Arakaki, chairman of Gokenhananpo, spoke at the rally. While criticizing the Liberal Democratic Party government's efforts to dispatch Self-Defense Forces [SDF] troops abroad, Arakaki stressed: "There is no time to lose; more than 10,000 U.S. troops have been sent to the Middle East from Okinawa. All people on Okinawa must avail themselves of this opportunity to continue the struggle by joining hands with other people who are developing antiwar campaigns in various countries of the world." The issue of dispatching SDF troops abroad has resurfaced in the wake of the outbreak of the Gulf war.

After reading messages from Governor Ota and Naha City Mayor Oyadomary, which called "for the earliest possible settlement," various people, including Kosuke Uehara, member of the House of Representatives; Shinei Kyan, member of the House of Councillors; and representatives of the Social Mass Party, the Japan Socialist Party, and democratic organizations, all appealed for an "early peace."

Later, the rally adopted an appeal, which said: "Let us begin unified action by bringing together the wisdom of people from across the world for the realization of peace." Then, participants shouted three banzais and marched through Naha City, shouting in unison: "We want an immediate cease-fire through peaceful settlement!"

Okinawan Groups Protest U.S. Training, Gulf War

OW2301055291 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 22 Jan 91 Evening Edition p 9

[Text] Kin—U.S. forces in Okinawa began their live-firing training across National Highway 104 at 1300 on 22 January. Four groups, including the United Action Liaison Council to Defend Livelihood and Democracy, all aligned with the Japan Communist Party, staged a protest rally in front of Gate 1 of Camp Hansen on the morning of the same day, calling for a halt to the live-firing. The training area is located in Camp Hansen.

The military base has tightened security checks on vehicles at the gate as part of efforts to prevent potential terrorist attacks on U.S. military facilities following the outbreak of war in the Persian Gulf. Guards were seen patrolling together with military dogs along fences, thereby revealing tensions on the base.

Addressing the rally which was participated by approximately 80 people, Masao Miyagi, chairman of the United Action Liaison Council to Defend Livelihood and Democracy, said: "This is the second live-firing training during this month and it is unprecedented. The training is related directly to the Gulf war. Let us unite to oppose the training." Speaking at the rally, representatives of the four groups demanded an Iraqi pullout from Kuwait and a cease-fire, while stressing that "Okinawa should not be used as a base for launching attacks."

In addition, the Okinawa People's Council to Defend the Constitution and Oppose Security Treaty staged a protest rally on a hill in Igei District at 1230 on 22 January.

Okinawa Police on Alert Against Terrorist Acts

OW2001051591 Naha NHK Radio in Japanese 2210 GMT 18 Jan 91

[Text] Because of the possibility of antiwar radical groups launching terrorist or guerrilla actions against U.S. bases which have become air-attack home bases in Okinawa, the Okinawa Prefectural Police Headquarters has decided to go to an alert status. About 1,600 police officers, including 100 officers to be sent in from other prefectures, will be employed for this purpose.

With tensions building in the Gulf, activities on U.S. facilities on Okinawa, including Kadena Air Base, have been brisk of late. Finally, two days ago, the Gulf war broke out at the initiation of attacks by multinational forces led by the U.S. forces.

As a result of this, there is a fear that radicals protesting the operations by the U.S. forces will launch terrorist or guerrilla actions against U.S. forces facilities on Okinawa. Therefore, the Prefectural Police Headquarters has decided to have about 1,500 police officers, who have been mobilized in connection with the gangster violence, carry out concurrently the mission of guarding the vicinity of the U.S. military bases. With an additional 100 police officers sent in from other prefectures to assist them, a total of 1,600 police officers will be employed in the security of the vicinity of the bases.

Armacost, Ota Discuss Bases in Okinawa, Gulf War

OW2301004791 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 23 Jan 91 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] Visiting U.S. Ambassador to Japan Armacost paid a courtesy call on Okinawa Prefectural Governor Ota at the Okinawa Prefectural Government on the afternoon of 22 January. At the meeting, Prefectural Governor Ota requested the early return of U.S. military bases in Okinawa and other places. In response, Ambassador Armacost said: "I am aware of the excessive presence of U.S. military bases in Okinawa. The United States is doing its utmost to reduce the bases." Referring to the Gulf war, the ambassador said: The Gulf war broke out to force Iraq to accept UN resolutions. It needs cooperation from the international community to defend Kuwait. Iraq's violation of international laws cannot be tolerated."

At the outset of the meeting, Prefectural Governor Ota touched on the Gulf war and said: Okinawans are taking seriously the start of fighting. I hope the United States will work to bring about a cease-fire at the earliest date." At the meeting, the governor also made a three-point request to the ambassador, which included 1) the early return of U.S. military bases in Okinawa, 2) cooperation in his visit to the United States and, 3) the promotion of exchanges between Okinawa and the United States. In response, the ambassador stated: "Regarding the reduction of the military bases in Okinawa, the Governments of Japan and the United States are closely cooperating to that end. I am making the utmost efforts" he said, and added that "the presence of U.S. forces in Japan is based on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and their presence is important." Touching on the Gulf war, the ambassador sought the governor's understanding of training by U.S. forces, saying: "7,000 troops in Japan went to the Middle East. U.S. forces require a minimal level of training to fulfill their duties of ensuring security."

On the governor's intent to visit the United States at an early date, the ambassador said: "It is necessary to consider the timing of your visit to the United States. I welcome your plan to visit the United States."

This is the fifth time the ambassador has visited Okinawa. He is visiting Okinawa along with his wife and will return to Tokyo on the afternoon of 23 January.

DSP Chairman Considering Visit to Moscow

OW1901040391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0331 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 19 KYODO—Opposition Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) Chairman Keigo Ouchi may visit Moscow in late February or early March to talk with Kremlin leaders, party sources said Saturday.

The offer was welcomed by Soviet Ambassador to Japan Lyudvig Chizhov during a two-hour dinner with Ouchi Friday at a Tokyo restaurant, they said.

The date of the visit has yet to be determined, but Ouchi wants to go between the end of the February 19-20 party convention and the start of a series of nationwide local elections March 18.

The centrist party leader hopes to discuss with Soviet officials the upcoming visit to Tokyo by President Mikhail Gorbachev in addition to the Persian Gulf situation, Soviet domestic problems, and Japan's claim to Soviet-held islands northeast of Japan, the sources said.

Justice Minister on Fingerprinting of Koreans

OW2101130391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1141 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 21 KYODO—Justice Minister Megumu Sato said Monday that a new Family Registry system for Japan's Korean minority, currently being studied to replace fingerprinting as a means of identification, may lead to infringements on individual privacy.

Although members of Japan's Korean resident community have expressed similar concerns in the past month, Sato is the first Japanese Government official to publicly state that a revised alien registration law will need measures to guard against invasions of privacy.

The Justice Ministry has been struggling with questions surrounding Japan's alien registration law since earlier this month, when Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told South Korean counterpart Yi Sang-ok that Japan would halt by 1993 the practice of fingerprinting foreign residents.

Proposed revisions to the law are due to be submitted to the Diet when it convenes its next regular session.

Some manner of a family registry for foreigners, similar to those kept for Japanese, or general identification number are being considered as substitutes by the ministry.

Sato said Monday, however, that any revisions to the current law would need to include a stipulation to guard against infringements of privacy.

The pro-Seoul Korean Residents Union in Japan, or Mindan, has expressed concern that by registering under the proposed system, data from local government offices would be immediately available through a computer network to the national government.

This private information might include data such as a person's assets or personal background.

Musing about the number of problems that existed with the registry system, Sato said the ministry "must study seriously" how far to go with investigating a person's family record while ensuring privacy.

"This must be written into the law along with advising people at immigration," said Sato.

Regarding a request by Mindan and other Korean residents to eliminate the requirement that alien registration cards be carried at all times, Sato indicated that it was not currently being considered.

"There is no way for us to accept (Mindan's) demands every time they make one. We will consider the next problem when the time arises," he said.

Hashimoto Predicts G-7 Focus on Foreign Exchange

OW1801203691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1234 GMT 18 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 18 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said Friday the upcoming meeting of the Group of Seven (G- 7) industrialized nations will focus on the foreign-exchange market, which is gyrating amid worries over the war in the Persian Gulf.

"The foreign-exchange market will be a major topic at the G-7 meeting. Japan will cooperate with other nations for its stabilization," Hashimoto told a House of Councillors plenary session.

Against early expectations, the yen has sharply appreciated since the outbreak of the Gulf war on Wednesday, buoyed by widespread hopes of a quick end to the confrontation. Though the currency rates are "relatively stable," Hashimoto said, the ministry will keep a watchful eye on further developments.

Finance ministers and central bank governors of the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada are scheduled to gather in New York on Sunday and Monday to discuss policy coordination on the global economy and assistance to the multinational forces in the Gulf as well as the foreign-exchange market.

Hashimoto, who will leave on Saturday with Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno, is to hold a bilateral meeting with his U.S. counterpart, Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, before the talks.

Departs for G-7 Meeting 19 Jan

OW1901032491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0309 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 19 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto left for New York on Saturday to attend a meeting of top finance officials from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations.

The G-7 meeting will be held Sunday and Monday mainly to discuss policy coordination on the global economy, assistance to Middle East countries being hurt by the Persian Gulf war, and foreign-exchange market policy. Financial aid to the Soviet Union will be also on the agenda.

Hashimoto is to hold a bilateral meeting with U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady before the talks to discuss Japan's additional aid to U.S.-led multinational forces in the Persian Gulf area.

The finance minister will return to Japan on Wednesday.

Returns From G-7 Talks 23 Jan

OW2301113991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0820 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 23 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi

Mieno flew back home Wednesday afternoon from a meeting in New York of finance ministers and central bank governors from the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations.

Mongolia

MPR Government Statement on Gulf Situation

OW2301074391 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1458 GMT 17 Jan 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 17 Jan (MONTSAME)—The MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Government issued a statement today on the situation in the Persian Gulf region. The full text of the statement follows:

From the very outset, the MPR Government has resolutely condemned Iraq's 2 August 1990 military occupation of neighboring Kuwait and its subsequent annexation as a violation of the UN Charter and of the fundamental principles of international law and interstate relations.

Efforts undertaken by various countries aimed at the complete withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the restoration by political means of the independence and sovereignty of the State of Kuwait, and sanctions adopted in accordance with the decisions of the United Nations, did not, because of the present Iraqi leadership's position, yield the required results at the end of the period of time stipulated by UN Security Council Resolution No. 678 of 1990 on normalizing the crisis by peaceful means. As a result, and on the basis of the aforementioned UN Security Council resolution, actions by the international armed forces to liberate Kuwait began today.

The MPR Government deeply regrets the fact that the development of events has brought about an armed conflict fraught with a serious threat of exacerbating the international situation and causing enormous damage to the lives of people and the material wealth. The MPR confirms its invariable adherence to solving any contentious problems through political methods and reiterates its support for the UN decision on normalizing the crisis in the Persian Gulf region.

The MPR Government hopes that peace is established in the Persian Gulf region without delay and without a further escalation of military activities, with the aim of restoring the independence and sovereignty of Kuwait.

Foreign Ministry Comments on Gulf Situation

OW2101063491 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1450 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 16 Jan (MONTSAME)—Speaking at a news conference, a Foreign Ministry representative said that the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Government is concerned about the recent exacerbation of the situation in the Persian Gulf region and the growing threat of an armed conflict there.

The MPR Government considers it essential that all UN decisions on this question be implemented to their full extent, he said. Outlining the position of his government, the Foreign Ministry representative noted that a final opportunity still remains for a peaceful normalization of the problem and expressed hope that the parties involved would apply every effort to achieve this end.

President Remarks on Upcoming U.S. Visit

OW2101065591 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1445 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 16 Jan (MONTSAME)—Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat attaches great significance to his first official visit to the United States as president of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic]. He made this comment during his tour of a number of somons in Tob Aymag (central Mongolia). He noted that during his meeting with U.S. President G. Bush, an exchange of opinions will be held on a number of important questions. In his view, this will serve the establishment of trade, economic, cultural, and scientific cooperation between the two countries. During the MPR president's forthcoming visit, a trade agreement between the MPR and the United States will be signed in Washington. P. Ochirbat expressed a wish to meet and hold talks with representatives of business circles and businessmen and, in particular, to reach an agreement on the establishment of an oil refining enterprise in the MPR.

Turning to the situation in the Persian Gulf region, P. Ochirbat noted that relations between Kuwait and Iraq are presently one of the most difficult problems. He declared that our government invariably pursues a peaceloving foreign policy aimed against any aggression or threat of war. We condemn Iraq's aggression against Kuwait and consider it expedient to normalize the situation in the Persian Gulf region by peaceful means through political dialogue. We do not consider the UN decision on the question of the Persian Gulf situation to be wrong.

P. Ochirbat also stated that when he passes through the Soviet Union he would like to meet with USSR President M.S. Gorbachev, if such an opportunity arises. If such a meeting takes place, he plans to exchange views on the progress and fulfillment of agreements reached in May of last year, as well as on other major issues.

Lithuanian Issue Termed 'Internal Matter'

OW2101063591 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1452 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 16 Jan (MONTSAME)—Speaking to journalists, a Foreign Ministry representative said that the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Government considers the Lithuanian question to be an internal matter of the Soviet Union. At the same time, it expresses regret over the latest events in Lithuania, particularly with the bloodshed and loss of human lives. The MPR Government believes that the question will be solved by political means and in a peaceful way.

Minister Congratulates Bessmertnykh on Appointment

OW2301041391 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1452 GMT 17 Jan 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 17 Jan (MONTSAME)— T. Gombosuren, MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Minister of External Relations, has congratulated A.A. Bessmertnykh in connection with his appointment as USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Joint USSR Friendship Agreement Marked

OW1901061491 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1443 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 14 Jan (MONTSAME)—A friendship soiree, devoted to the 25th anniversary of the Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance Treaty between the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] and the USSR, was held in the House of Soviet Science and Culture today.

J. Gurragchaa, chairman of the Central Council of the Mongolian-Soviet Friendship Association, noted that the 1966 treaty opened a new page in the history of friendly relations and cooperation between the MPR and USSR. Renewing itself at every stage of development of Mongolian-Soviet relations, the treaty has made a concrete contribution in the development and prosperity of Mongolia. Today, the industrial enterprises, built with the technical and economic assistance of the Soviet Union, produce nearly 60 percent of the gross manufacturing product, nearly half of the national income of the country. The realistic evaluation of the past, sensible solution of the accumulated questions, and finally, the subsequent expansion [words indistinct] trust, respect and equality will correspond to the fundamental interests of the Mongolian and Soviet peoples.

The process of perestroyka unfolding in the Soviet Union has entered a difficult stage and serious economic difficulties are being encountered in the USSR. A wide movement has developed in our country to render brotherly assistance to our Soviet friends. It is gratifying to note that today, nearly a million tugriks has been accumulated. The time tested friendship and cooperation of the Mongolian and Soviet peoples will be strengthened henceforth, J. Gurragchaa emphasized.

V. I. Sitnikov, the USSR ambassador to MPR, made a salutary address at the soiree.

Government Intends To Join IMF, World Bank

LD2201114991 Berlin ADN in German 1009 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (ADN)—The Mongolian parliament has decided that the country will join the most important international financial organizations, "ARDYN ERCH" reports today. Mongolia intends becoming a member of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, as well as of the International Finance Corporation and the International Development Association, both specialised organizations of the World Bank. Joining these institutions will cost $106.5 million.

Poll Shows Support for Government Programs

OW2101080191 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1439 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 16 Jan (MONTSAME)— The Center for Studying State Policy and Social Problems of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Government conducted a sociological poll on the basic directions of the government's activities and on measures that should be adopted by the Council of Ministers. Of the approximately 500 people questionned, 42 percent are workers, 4.2 percent are livestock breeders, and 53.7 percent are representatives of the intelligentsia. Also among them are representatives of six officially registered political parties.

Of those questioned, 87.6 percent approved of the basic directions of the government's activities and considered them achievable. The poll results show that the country's working people are seriously concerned about the shortages of foodstuffs and consumer goods. Of those questioned, 82.2 percent said that they were "inadequately" provided with goods.

More than half of the respondents noted the need to perfect the price formation system and to increase wages. They said that the most pressing measures that should be adopted in connection with the change to market relations are controlling prices and wages, privatizing state property, increasing the import volume of consumer goods, and establishing a special regime in areas where this is necessary.

As far as Mongolian-Soviet relations are concerned, 60.5 percent of those questioned felt that bilateral relations should develop and be enriched in accordance with the new principles.

Revolutionary Youth League Congress Opens 16 Jan

OW2101082691 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1458 GMT 16 Jan 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 16 Jan (MONTSAME)—The regular 20th Mongolian Revolutionary Youth League (MRYL) Congress began its work today. The congress must determine the future and development of this organization, which unites more than 200,000 members.

G. Ganbold, chairman of the MRYL Executive Committee, in his report "Lessons From MRYL History and Prospects for the Youth Movement," noted that the MRYL, which was founded in 1921 as an independent public and political organization, later turned into a weapon for realizing narrow party interests of the Mongolian Communist Party and became a constituent part of the administrative- bureaucratic system. As a result, the league's activities acquired a showy and formal character, and the division between the interests of its leadership and those of rank-and-file members deepened.

Emphasizing the urgent need for fundamental renewal and reorganization of the MRYL, Ganbold said that new political realities demand a principled review of the tasks and directions of the league's activities in accordance with the principles of democracy, pluralism of views, and openness.

Outlining the Executive Committee's position concerning the future of the MRYL, Ganbold said that the establishment of a new league on the basis of the former MRYL was a future possibility. This new league would unite independent youth organizations, unions, and movements. Its activities would be directed at defending fundamental interests; establishing favorable political, social, economic, and legal conditions for constructive labor, education, and active leisure; solving social issues; and developing the skills and talents of Mongolian youths.

Debates by MRYL deputies followed the report. The congress is continuing its work.

League Discusses Total Reorganization

OW2201070691 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1445 GMT 17 Jan 91

["20th MRYL Congress: Decision Adopted on Establishing a New Youth Organization"—MONTSAME headline]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 17 Jan (MONTSAME)— "Continuing activity of the MRYL [Mongolian Revolutionary Youth League] in its present organizational forms and structure has become impossible." This was the opinion of the majority of congress delegates. After lively discussions and various proposals, including even complete disbandment, a resolution was adopted by a majority of votes on suspending the activities of the MRYL in order to establish a new youth organization on the principles of an association.

In order to resolve this issue an organizing committee and election and counting commissions were formed this morning. The delegates began to discuss the principles and directions of the activities of the new organization and its draft charter.

North Korea

Planned 'Team Spirit' Exercises Criticized

SK2201105691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 22 Jan 91

["U.S. Imperialists and South Korean Authorities Scheme To Stage "Team Spirit 91" Exercises"—KCNA headline]

[Team] Pyongyang January 22 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling group Monday "agreed" to force the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises from January 24 to the end of April in defiance of the strong denunciation by home and foreign public, according to a radio report from Seoul.

The U.S. imperialists blare that they will as previously bring into South Korea large U.S. Forces from the U.S. mainland and aggressive bases overseas for the criminal manoeuvres for a war of aggression.

It is very ill-boding for them to publish the plan of "Team Spirit 91" coinciding with the Gulf War.

It indicates that the U.S. imperialists intend to lay a higher hurdle in the way of the Korean people's struggle for independent and peaceful reunification by egging the South Korean ruling group on to confrontation and a war against the North against the background of the Gulf War.

The people in the North and the South will never tolerate the criminal scheme of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges to stage the "Team Spirit 91" exercises at any cost in a bid to deliberately break up the North-South dialogue including the high-level talks.

South's Approval of Medical Team to Gulf Cited

SK2301052891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0511 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 23 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u ruling group "carried a motion" at the puppet National Assembly, its waiting maid, on the evening of January 21 to "legalize" the criminal step of dispatching a "military medical team" to the Gulf war as demanded by its master, the U.S. imperialists, according to a radio report from Seoul.

The South Korean people are resolutely opposing the dispatch of a "military medical team", considering it to be a prelude to the dispatch of combat troops of the puppet army. This notwithstanding, the No ruling group, in defiance of the people's protest, has plunged into the U.S. imperialists' Gulf war by sending a "military medical team" to the war-torn area.

Planned Dispatch of Combat Troops Assailed

SK2301031691 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1150 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "Manifestation of a Vicious Plot to Dispatch Puppet Military Troops"]

[Text] According to reports, the puppet national defense minister said at a full session of the National Assembly National Defense Committee on 20 January that the situation in the Gulf is shakey and that if the United States strongly asks him to send troops, considering what he called national security and interests, he will examine a plan to send the combat troops of the puppet Armed Forces.

As already known, on 10 January, a time prior to the outbreak of war in the Gulf region, the No Tae-u ring decided to send a military medical team comprised of approximately 150 to the Gulf region as requested by the U.S. imperialists and it was so announced. Following this, the fellows also decided to extend material assistance worth $90 million to the Gulf region some time in the first half of this year. The decision by the No Tae-u ring to send a military medical team and material assistance as requested by the U.S. imperialists has been strongly opposed and rejected by the South Korean people. Embarrassed by this, traitor No Tae-u said that he had not mapped out or considered a plan to send combat troops to the Gulf region and that he would not send units from the puppet Armed Forces. When the war, which the U.S. imperialists provoked, was expanding, under the pretext of national security, the No Tae-u ring babbled that if the United States asks him to send troops, he would consider the dispatch of the combat troops of the puppet armed forces. This virtually means that he would send the combat troops of the puppet armed forces to the Gulf region. This is the intolerable defilement of the South Korean people and an unforgivable treacherous maneuver to join the U.S. imperialists' aggression maneuvers and to send his fellow countrymen as his masters' cannon fodder.

Traitor No Tae-u has babbled about security as pretext of sending the combat troops of the puppet armed forces to the Gulf region. This is shameless sophistry. The war in the Gulf region, which the U.S. imperialists provoked, is going on at a place very far away from the Korean peninsula, and no bullet is flying in South Korea. Nevertheless, the puppets have babbled about so-called security. They have done so in an effort to justify the dispatch of the puppet troops and to conceal their dirty colors as colonial running dogs, treacherous toadyists, and war servants who fully accede to the U.S. imperialists' brigandish requests. As a matter of fact, what the puppets call security is security for their own power. In exchange for its dispatch of its fellow countrymen to the U.S. imperialists' war as cannon fodder, the No Tae-u ring is trying to win greater trust from his masters and to maintain its colonial military fascist rule in South Korea forever under his masters' patronage. By nature, the No Tae-u ring is a group of the first-class running dogs and treacherous betrayers who took dictatorial power and are maintaining it by clinging to the U.S. imperialists' aprons. Therefore, these fellows are begging for the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialist forces of aggression and the protection of South Korea under a U.S. nuclear umbrella, which is strongly opposed by the South Korean people, and acceding to any request by their masters without caring about the country and nation.

Because the U.S. imperialists asked it to share the upkeep of the U.S. troops based in the Gulf region, the No Tae-u ring has sent several hundred million dollars to the U.S. troops based in the Gulf region since late last year. Moreover, unsatisfied with this, it has decided to send a medical team and materials and is even planning to send combat troops of the puppet armed forces. This is unforgivable.

The puppets send their fellow countrymen as sacrificial offerings in the imperialists' war of aggression for the sake of their personal safety and power. This treacherous crime arouses indignation among the South Korean people as a matter of course. The South Korean people will in no way tolerate the maneuvers by the puppets to repeat the crime that the fellow countrymen were dragged to the Vietnamese battlefields to be killed.

At a time when the world's progressive people want the situation in the Gulf region to be resolved peacefully without foreign intervention, the No Tae-u ring willingly joined the U.S. imperialists aggression maneuvers. This openly exposed its dirty colors as the U.S. imperialists' war servants and the enemy of peace. The No Tae-u ring must listen to the voice of people at home and abroad and must stop its treacherous act of joining the U.S. imperialists' aggression maneuvers.

No's War-Related Emergency Measures Condemned

SK2201115391 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0020 GMT 22 Jan 91

[NODONG SINMUN 22 January commentary: "An Outrageous Act of Rejecting Dialogue and Peace"]

[Text] The situation on the Korean peninsula is becoming more tense with each passing day. Such a state is due to the fact that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique entered emergency war footing after war broke out in the Gulf, linking it to us.

As has been reported, the No Tae-u ring, which is under the control of the U.S. imperialists, held emergency meetings one after another to work out ways to ensure security and counter the developing situation as soon as the flames of war erupted in the Gulf region, all the while babbling about a void in security and somebody's possible provocation, and then placed the whole armed forces on emergency operational alert posture and emergency war footing.

Not only have they ordered the puppet army officers above the rank of company commander into readiness for action and ordered emergency readiness in military barracks, but they are also noisily crying about watching the North and strengthening the anti-aircraft posture, while mobilizing the all of their suppressive forces to suppress the people under the pretext of emergency law and order measures.

Placing the units of the U.S. troops occupying South Korea on an alert posture on the one hand, the U.S. imperialists are conducting a bombing exercise simulating an invasion of the northern half of the Republic with hundreds of Air Force aircraft flown into South Korea daily from bases in the Pacific, on the other hand.

The confrontational and war commotions kicked up by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling bunch have created a more strained situation on the Korean peninsula. The ominous move by the U.S. imperialists and the puppets have provoked great concern in the hearts of the entire Korean people and the people of the world.

As is apparent to all, the war broke out in the Gulf and there is no reason for the U.S. imperialists and the puppets to use it as an excuse to aggravate tensions on the Korean peninsula. Although the U.S. imperialists and the puppets babble about the threat of southward invasion and provocation from the North, we have put forward new proposals for reunification from the outset of the new year and have been making efforts to turn this year into a historical year for opening a new phase for national reunification.

The No Tae-u ring, under the command and control of the U.S. imperialists, has declared an emergency war footing by linking it with us, and, at the same time, ordered the whole armed forces into readiness for action, and is now devoted to an anticommunist confrontational commotion. This is, in fact, an expression of its stand of rejecting dialogue and peace, as well as a grave antinational criminal act of artificially aggravating tension on the Korean peninsula and of driving the situation to the brink of war.

It is also a deliberate scheme to obliterate the patriotic forces aspiring for reunification and democracy and to pave the way for prolonging the dictatorship by openly wielding the bayonet of military dictatorship under the pretext of taking emergency measures to keep law and order in society, while creating an atmosphere replete with the terror of war in South Korea.

This is not the first time that the No Tae-u ring has exposed its attempt at such. In the North-South High-Level Talks held last year, South Korean authorities sought only confrontation and the perpetuation of national division while ignoring our proposals for peace and reunification and rejected even the adoption of a nonaggression declaration, the very starting point of working out a solution to peace and reunification question.

The South Korean ruling bunch this year even went so far as to refuse to receive letters containing the proposal for convening a political consultative meeting for national reunification. This was an undisguised indication that they have no intention of settling the peace and national reunification questions through dialogue with us.

Another fact that is widely known is that in a the cabinet reshuffle game which was effected toward the end of last year, traitor No Tae-u packed the ruling group with his followers and on the basis of a strengthened collusion with the Fifth Republic's fascist military elements declared a war against crime at the very outset of the new year, thereby revealing their intention to intensify the suppression of the people under the pretext of a war on crime.

The No Tae-u ring is about to realize its criminal effort at one stroke by provoking us in the wake of the war in the Gulf. Attempting to stand in the way of peace and reunification by worsening North-South relations and take advantage of the flames of war fought in a distant region to pave way for its prolonged stay in power through the strengthening of the fascist military dictatorship is an antinational, anti-peace, and anti-reunification crime that can be committed only by such a toadyist slave, splittist, and fascist military dictator as the No Tae-u ring.

There is no question that the South Korean puppets' indiscreet commotion will increase the danger of war on the Korean peninsula and bring consequences to the North-South dialogue and the cause of national reunification from which it is impossible to recover.

Nowhere is there a guarantee that a war of northward invasion would not break out again on the Korean peninsula at a time when the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, being ready for action for northward invasion, are devoted to provocative maneuvers against us and are even about to conduct the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise with vast aggressive forces brought from abroad.

All the people in the North and South will never remain a mere spectator to today's grave situation in which national peace, reunification, and welfare are seriously threatened by the U.S. imperialists' and the No Tae-u ring's criminal maneuvers.

The South Korean ruling bunch should dismantle the emergency war footing declared throughout South Korea in keeping with the U.S. imperialists' aggression and war policy, and return to the road leading to peace and reunification as we demand them to and as the fellow countrymen hope for.

If the No Tae-u ring takes the road of anticommunist confrontation, war, and fascism at all costs, they will never be able to avoid our people's unanimous denunciation and the stern judgment of history.

South's Emergency Security Measures Scored

SK2101070791 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0020 GMT 21 Jan 91

[NODONG SINMUN 21 January commentary: "Emergency Security Measures Taken To Extend Dictatorship"]

[Text] When war broke out in the Gulf region, the No Tae-u ring seized the opportunity to place South Korea under an emergency wartime system. Under the pretext of someone else's nonexistent provocation, traitor No Tae-u ordered the puppet forces to assume a posture of complete combat readiness, thus aggravating tension between the North and South to the utmost. He also ordered all the forces for suppression, including the puppet police, to assume an emergency security posture. The puppets are resorting to suppressions everywhere under the pretext of maintaining stability and of preventing infiltration and terrorism by outside forces and destruction by forces from within. As a result, the puppet troops, agents of the Defense Security Command and the Agency for National Security Planning, the puppet police and prosecutor's offices, the reserve forces, and other forces of suppression are based everywhere in Seoul and all other areas in South Korea. Even the puppet administrative officials are mobilized to work on an emergency basis. Checks and searches are taking place everywhere. Surveillance, arrests, and other forms of suppression against patriotic forces for reunification and democracy are taking place all the time. Because of the Gulf war, all of South Korea has been turned into a dark, fear-stricken area where military fascist guns and bayonets are rampant.

As everyone knows, war is going on in the Gulf region, a place far away from South Korea. The puppets have no reason to run amok. Moreover, we are not attempting to launch what the puppets call southward invasion. Rather, we call for a peace dialogue in the country and for peaceful reunification. Then, why is the No Tae-u ring running amok and babbling as if a big disturbance may take place on the Korean peninsula. This is a planned and deliberate maneuver by the puppets to use the Gulf war in artificially aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula, as well as in maintaining their military fascist dictatorship and consolidating their system for long-term power.

The youth and students and people in general are more vigorously waging a struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification in South Korea. In particular, the spirits of national unity have arisen, and aspirations for reunification are growing as time goes by. Independence, democracy, and reunification have become an unstoppable trend in South Korea. This surely is a big threat to the No Tae-u ring, which is trying to maintain its military fascist dictatorship by clinging to the aprons of outside forces and to maintain its existence by national division.

Traitor No Tae-u is very uneasy over the fact that his anticommunist confrontational policy is being totally frustrated. The puppets are stunned by political instability in South Korea at a time when elections for local assemblies, local administrative offices, and the National Assembly and the presidential election are ahead. Let us look at the upcoming elections for local assemblies. The puppets are trying to ensure that many of their Democratic Liberal Party's [DLP] cohorts will be elected to local assemblies. In this way, they are trying to promote a favorable situation for maintaining their military dictatorship and extending their power. However, prospects are not good for this criminal attempt by the No Tae-u ring. The No Tae-u ring has failed to maintain stability even inside his ruling circles because of conflicts over power. The South Korean people unanimously oppose the extension of power by No Tae-u and his DLP cohorts and say that the upcoming elections for local assemblies will be an opportunity to dole out a judgment for traitor No Tae-u and his DLP. The No Tae-u ring is trying to reverse the political situation, which is becoming unfavorable to it as time goes by, by using the Gulf war. In other words, it is creating a horrific war atmosphere under the pretext that the North may perpetrate provocations on the occasion of the Gulf war, and is exercising open military fascist rule under the pretext of emergency security in order to decimate patriotic forces for reunification and democracy, to more steadfastly shackle people in dictatorial chains, to place opposition forces under the swords of the military dictatorship, and to hold fraudulent elections, thus providing a basis for its long-term power.

Traitor No Tae-u, who is using a foreign war to maintain and extend his anti-independence, antidemocracy, and antireunification dictatorship, is a very shameless, vicious military hooligan and fascist hoodlum. His preceding dictators who were infamous for fascism did not dare to commit such acts. This shows that if such military hooligans and fascist hoodlums as traitor No Tae-u go unpunished in South Korea, people cannot live freely in peace even for a moment or fulfill their earnest desire for independence, democracy, and reunification. The criminal maneuver by the No Tae-u ring to beef up its military dictatorship on the occasion of the Gulf war is not justifiable and must be resolutely frustrated. When the tyrannical military fascist frenzies by the puppets are tolerated, South Korea will only turn into the wasteland of democracy and human rights where crude military fascist rule is prevailing. The South Korean people must unanimously, resolutely join a struggle to stop criminal maneuvers by the No Tae-u ring. The No Tae-u ring must cancel its antinational, antipopular measures to beef up security, measures that run counter to the trend of the times, must immediately release patriotic people who have been arrested and detained, and must resign from power as requested by the people.

No Tae-u Meeting With Gregg, RisCassi Denounced

SK2201005891 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] According to news reports from Seoul, RisCassi, commander of the U.S. imperialist forces of aggression occupying South Korea, and Gregg, U.S. ambassador to Seoul, held secret discussion with traitor No Tae-u on 20 January at Chongwadae.

The U.S. imperialist war messengers informed the puppet traitor of operational plans of the coalition forces, including the U.S. forces, involved in the war in the Gulf and then noted the need to intensify guarding against us and the early warning system.

Following this, these guys kindled encouragement in the puppet traitor festering with the fever of northward invasion, saying that there will be no change in the security structure built for an emergency on the Korean peninsula and that U.S. commitment to South Korea is firm and unchanging.

Also, the U.S. imperialists and the puppet clique are reported to have kept U.S. and puppet army officers above the rank of company commanders on duty at their assigned posts even on Sunday and taken measures to drastically intensify the acts of watching us under guard by further intensifying the emergency alert posture.

Almost at the same time, the person holding the title of the puppet minister of national defense babbled in a confabulation of the puppet National Assembly Defense Committee that they have at their disposal a system to counter a full-scale war and localized conflict simultaneously, thereby openly revealing their attempt on a war of northward invasion.

The goal behind such a commotion kicked up by the U.S. imperialists and their running dogs is to lay grave new obstacles on the road to the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea by artificially aggravating tensions on the Korean peninsula and thereby bringing the situation to the brink of a war, taking advantage of the war of aggression in the Gulf.

The war in the Gulf, a distant place from the Korean peninsula, cannot be used as a justification for the U.S. imperialists and the puppets to aggravate tensions by linking it with us.

Already on many occasions, we have put forward proposals for adopting a nonaggression declaration designed to ensure durable peace precluding northward invasion or southward invasion and have made every sincere effort to realize them.

The military commotion kicked up in South Korea by the puppets in the wake of the war in the Gulf is nothing but a revelation that the puppets do not want dialogue or reunification with us and that it is a criminal scheme to cook up an excuse to trigger a war of northward invasion by deliberately aggravating tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Our people are vigilantly watching the scheme of the U.S. imperialists and the puppet clique for a war of northward invasion. They should clearly realize that the path to a war of northward invasion will lead to their downfall.

South Rulers Plea for 'Security System' Reported

SK2201115891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 22 (KCNA)—No Tae-u played up to RisCassi, commander of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces occupying South Korea, when the latter called at "Chongwadae" [presidential residence] on January 20, "expressing firm support" to the United States which lighted the train of an aggressive war in the Gulf region and entreating him to establish a "security system" in South Korea in reward for it, according to a radio report from Seoul.

This is nothing but a drivel of the traitor that he will live by clinging to the sleeves of the U.S. imperialists, his master.

It is clear to everyone that RisCassi called at "Chongwadae" that day to personally order a dispatch of South Korean young people to the Gulf region as cheap cannon fodder.

The South Korean ruling quarters must give up their wild ambition to invade the North, looking straight at the reality, and stop at once the criminal act of driving out South Korean young people as bullet shields of the U.S. imperialists.

South Accused of 'Aggravating Tension'

SK2201045191 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1150 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Commentary by station commentator Kim Kyong-pok: "Why Are They Aggravating Tension?"]

[Text] The South Korean puppets are aggravating tension on the Korean peninsula under the pretext of the war in the Gulf. According to a report, on 20 January traitor No Tae-u met RisCasssi, commander of the U.S. forces occupying South Korea, at Chongwadae. At the meeting, traitor No Tae-u implored him to get fully prepared against someone's possible miscalculation, babbling about maintaining U.S.-South Korean security system and the like. This is not only absurd remarks which again reveal again the rascal's pro-U.S, flunkeyist, treacherous, and bellicose nature, but also an intolerable criminal act which reveals his real intention designed to further lead the situation to the brink of war by artificially aggravating tension on the Korean peninsula.

As everyone knows, as soon as the U.S. imperialists triggered the war of aggression against Iraq in the Gulf, the U.S. imperialist aggression forces in South Korea and the puppet army held in succession emergency war conferences, issued an emergency alert order to all army units, and ordered all army officers above company commander level to stay in their military compounds, while clamoring about gaps in security, possibly someone's provocation, and the like. Along with this, they are still viciously waging reconnaissance and hostile activities against the northern half of the Republic.

The U.S. imperialist aggression forces in South Korea and the South Korean puppet army have now made every preparation so that they can be mobilized into battle at any time. And because of this, South Korea is now under an emergency state of wartime. Such ill-boding military moves are a development which can be seen only on the eve of a war and vividly proves that the danger of war on the Korean peninsula is coming from the South, not from the North, and that it has already entered a grave stage.

In fact, the purpose of the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea is not to deter a war there, but to invade the whole area of Korea by holding on to South Korea and to finally realize their ambition for dominating the world.

This notwithstanding, traitor No Tae-u implored his U.S. imperialist boss to make full preparedness while babbling about someone's miscalculation and the like. This is nothing other than his scheme to continuously push the U.S. imperialist aggression forces on South Korea and to persistently ignite the fire hazard of war.

We have already clarified many times, not only once or twice, that we have no intention of invading the South, and it is our consistent stand to achieve national reunification in a peaceful way through dialogue and negotiations. Already at the beginning of the year we put forward again a proposal for adopting a North-South nonaggression declaration, for guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula, and for providing a precondition for the peaceful reunification of the country. We have made all possible efforts for its realization.

People in the world know that we have no intention of invading the South. The puppets themselves admit this by saying that despite the war in the Gulf there are no particular moves in the North at the present time. Nevertheless, the puppets are kicking up a commotion, babbling about someone's possible miscalculation and provocations and the like. This reveals that the puppets' babbling about the possibility of someone's miscalculation and provocation are nothing but a sophistry designed to justify their war maneuvers.

Why then are the puppets slandering us, making such inconsistent utterances as if a war were imminent, thereby aggravating tension?

It is designed undoubtedly to extremely aggravate tension on the Korean peninsula under the pretext of the war in the Gulf and finally to trigger a new war there. The No Tae-u ring is the ring of vicious war maniacs who do not want detente on the Korean peninsula and its peaceful reunification. It is also the U.S. imperialists' war culprit. The criminal maneuvers of the No Tae-u puppet clique, which is dashing along the road of North-South confrontation and war, following the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers for war, cannot be tolerated and will be subjected to greater condemnation and rejection from the people at home and abroad. If the South Korean puppets continue to indiscreetly run wild, running counter to the nation's aspirations, they will not be able to escape the justice of history and the people.

CPRF Position on South's Gulf Stand Reiterated

SK2001004291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1531 GMT 19 Jan 91

["We Watch With High Vigilance Grave Situation Obtaining in South Korea With Gulf War as Occasion, Declares CPRF"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 19 (KCNA)—The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] in a statement today sharply denounced the indiscreet row raised by the South Korean puppets, decrying the North, with the provocation of a war of aggression against Iraq by the U.S. imperialists in the Gulf, regarding it as an anti-national criminal act to deliberately increase tensions and lead the situation to the brink of war on the Korean peninsula and a premeditated reactionary offensive to repress the patriotic forces for reunification and democracy and put fresh muscles into the military fascist repressive system in South Korea.

Noting that the war that broke out in the Gulf thousands of miles away from South Korea cannot be a ground for the South Korean puppets to render the situation strained, hurling slanders at us, the statement adds:

It is clear wherein lies the reason why the South Korean puppets went off into hysterics as soon as the war broke out in the Gulf region, misleading public opinion with the false impression that we will immediately mount an attack.

It is because they seek in this to close the door between the North and the South, rush more feverishly along the road of anti-communist fascistisation and thus suppress the South Korean people's struggle for independence, democracy and reunification, maintain the military fascist dictatorial system now in peril and, furthermore, gratify their wild ambition for long-term office.

Upset by this, the puppets seek to incite awareness of the crisis among the South Korean people with the Gulf War as an occasion, further intensify the fascistization moves under its pretext, stifle the forces for reunification and democracy and build up the long-term office system.

Absolutely intolerable is the No Tae-u group's anti-national and anti-peace criminal act of driving out fellow countrymen to the war of aggression in a foreign country in submission to foreign forces and obstructing peace and peaceful reunification of the country in pursuance of the war policy of the outside forces.

We watch with high vigilance the grave situation obtaining in South Korea and are keeping ourselves fully ready to cope with every situation.

If the No Tae-u group keep to the road of anti-communist confrontation and war and fascistization despite our solemn warnings, they will not be able to escape a stern judgement by history.

Documents on South Human Rights Abuse Cited

SK2101063491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0503 GMT 21 Jan 91

["ICJ Exposes South Korean Authorities' Fascist Repression"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 21 (KCNA)—Robert Charvin, secretary general of the International Committee of Jurists [ICJ] for Democracy and Human Rights in South Korea on Jan. 3 published documents exposing the No Tae-u ruling group's fasist repression of patriotic people in South Korea.

The documents draw attention to the fact that the number of guiltless prisoners of conscience is increasing in South Korea and they are subjected to harsh tortures and inhuman maltreatment and humiliation in prison.

They confine those prisoners of conscience who protest against tortures in special solitary cells, giving them no meals and water, and do all evil things such as stripping them bare and hanging them upside down, the documents note.

The documents appeal to international human rights organisations to lodge protests with the South Korean authorities against such brutal repression.

They point out that the South Korean authorities are faking up clamorous tricky cases to suppress the people who demand the democratization of society and reunification of the country.

Recalling that while having talks with Pyongyang, they arrested and imprisoned the three delegates of the South side who attended the Berlin tripartite working-level talks of the pan-national alliance for reunification, the documents emphasize that all this shows that the South Korean authorities have no intention at all to work for the democratization of society and the reunification of the country.

Commentary Views South-U.S. Military Exercise

SK2301055191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 23 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling quarters intend to stage the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises, a preliminary war and test nuclear war, against the northern half of Korea this year again. This is an unpardonable criminal act of further keying up the tensions on the Korean peninsula and pushing the situation to a dangerous phase, the brink of war, says NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today.

The United States and the South Korean authorities agreed to stage the "Team Spirit 91" from January 24 to the end of April.

The news analyst says:

They plan to force the "Team Spirit" this year after we put forward the new proposal for negotiation to decide on the way of national reunification and when the date of the fourth round of North-South High-Level Talks due to be held in Pyongyang is drawing near. This goes to prove that they have no sincerity towards North-South dialogue and try to lay a new hurdle in the way of the dialogue for peace and reunification. It is well worth noting that the large-scale "Team Spirit" joint military manoeuvres will be staged at a time when the No Tae-u group, under the manipulation of the U.S. imperialists, seized upon the outbreak of the Gulf war to declare an "emergency wartime system", taking issue with us, and is deliberately aggravating the situation.

The U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group are now raising outcries over someone's "possible provocation to invade the South". This shows that they are trying to find some pretext to ignite a war against the North on the Korean peninsula after concentrating their forces on it under the cloak of "Team Spirit".

The "Team Spirit" to be staged by them with "local assembly elections" expected in South Korea in the coming spring is a premeditated move meant to threaten the popular masses demanding fair elections with the powder smell of war exercises plus the fascist bayonet and lay a foundation for long-term office of the military fascist junta.

The U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group must take a step to discontinue the "Team Spirit" before it is too late.

If they defiantly commit the war game and lead it to a war against the North, turning a deaf ear to our warnings, they will be held wholly responsible for the consequences arising therefrom.

17 Jan U.S. Aerial Exercises Denounced

SK1901044891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 19 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Forces Command Thursday sent formations of F-16, FA-18 and other fighter-bombers and pursuit-assault planes to the air above Ryoju, Kunwi and Tongduchon, South Korea, and let them stage a joint military exercise simulating preemptive strikes at major targets in the inland area of the northern half of Korea in coordination with formations of such fighter-bombers and observation planes as F-4, F-5, F-16, OA-10 belonging to the U.S. 7th Airforce and the puppet Air Force, according to military sources.

On the same day, the U.S. imperialists let fly formations of F- 16, OA-10 and other fighter-bombers and observation planes under the U.S. 7th Airforce to the sky above Anyang, Anmyondo and Yongdong areas and stage an aerial military exercise against the North with formations of such fighter-bombers and assault planes as F-4, F-5, F-86 and A-37 of the puppet Air Force.

More than 100 fighter planes were mobilized in it.

Meanwhile, the South Korean puppets feverishly staged Thursday an exercise of attack on the North in the areas of Uijongbu and Kapyong and a parachuting exercise of "commandos" simulating their invasion of the North in the air above the Chunchon area.

Facts show well how desperately the U.S. imperialists and puppets are running about to realize their design to invade the North.

Baker Message to USSR on Lithuania Reported

SK2001145291 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] According to news reports, the United States is continually giving unjust pressure to the Soviet Union in connection with the steps it has taken to cope with the situation in Lithuania and other Republics on the Baltic Coast.

In a telephone conversation with the new Soviet Foreign Minister on 15 January, U.S. Secretary of State Baker said that the military repression in Lithuania is endangering the bilateral relations.

Raving he hopes that the two foreign ministers will continually go along the road of cooperation between the two countries in the future, Baker said that however, acts which the Soviet Union is taking against Lithuania are endangering such a goal. He threatened that if there is no common outlook on value, consistent cooperation cannot possibly be achieved.

In the meantime, the U.S. Senate on 16 January approved the resolution to immediately re-examine the U.S. economic benefits to the Soviet Union in connection with military action the Soviet Union has taken against Lithuania and other Republics on the Baltic Coast.

In a long telephone conversation with the Soviet president on 18 January, U.S. President Bush said that he expresses so-called deep concern with the situation of the Republics on the Baltic coast.

KCNA Reviews 23 Jan Pyongyang Press

SK2301064791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0515 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 23 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a message sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, in reply to the latter's message of solidarity supporting the new proposal for national reunification advanced by him in his new year address.

According to the press, President Kim Il-song exchanged new year's cards with foreign state leaders.

Congratulatory messages and letters came to the great leader President Kim Il-song from different countries on the new year of 1991, says NODONG SINMUN.

The daily dedicates an article to the 30th anniversary of the publication of President Kim Il-song's historical work "The Main Thing in Party Work Is To Educate, Remould and Unite All People" (January 23, 1961).

Spotlighted in the press is a report that working people in North Pyongan Province met and vowed to carry through the teachings recently given by President Kim Il-song to develop the national economy of the province to a new higher stage.

Under the title "Bright and Vast Is the Prospect of the Korean Nation Under the Guidance of Dear Mr. Kim Chong-il", NODONG SINMUN conveys what South Korean people said in praise of him.

The press informs the readers that thanks of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea were conveyed to members of the "February 17 shock brigade of scientists and technicians" who had registered remarkable scientific and technical achievements in various domains of the national economy.

NODONG SINMUN editorially calls for moving up the day of commissioning the Sariwon potassic fertilizer complex, the October 9 general steel-works, power stations and other major construction objects by powerfully pressing ahead with their construction.

Econews of the press includes reports that light industrial factories across the country are producing large quantities of mass consumption goods to implement the party's policy of making revolution in light industry.

Taking much space of the press is a report that Popyong ferry was opened to traffic to operate a ferryboat between Korea and China across the river Amnok. The ferry is the place where President Kim Il-song crossed the river Amnok, vowing firmly not to return home before liberating Korea after he left his home village Mangyongdae and started on the "1,000-ri journey for national liberation" in January 1925.

It is reported in NODONG SINMUN that a meeting was held at the Kim Il-song Institute of Agricultural Science in Guinea to mark the ninth anniversary of its foundation.

According to the press, DPRK ambassadors paid farewell calls at the general secretary of the Workers' Party of Jamaica and the prime minister of Benin.

Appearing in the press are statements released by figures of political parties and social organisations of different countries in support of the DPRK's new proposal for national reunification.

NODONG SINMUN conveys voices of South Korean people supporting our new proposal for national reunification.

The paper comments on the scheme of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets to stage "Team Spirit 91" joint military maneuvers.

Papers carry the gist of a statement published by the spokesman of the South Korean National Democratic Front in denunciation of the anti-national, anti-reunification criminal acts of the "government of the Democratic Liberal Party" and report about provocative war exercises staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities on the ground and in the sky.

An article of NODONG SINMUN stresses that the proposal for convening a political consultative conference for national reunification is a most appropriate overture of negotiation for reaching a nationwide agreement on the way of national reunification.

The paper conveys words of foreigners praising the Korean people who are loyal to the guidance of the party and the leader.

It is reported in papers that a new year gathering of Korean and Japanese men of culture and art was held in Tokyo, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR adopted a resolution on holding a national referendum on the preservation of the Soviet Union, marshal of the Soviet Union S. Akhromeyev contributed an article to the Jan. 21 issue of PRAVDA on the foreign policy and army building of the Soviet Union and the Czechoslovak newspaper MLADA FRONTA DNES published an article criticising the U.S. policy of "aid" to East European countries.

An article of NODONG SINMUN says that it is the firm stand of the DPRK Government to maintain the foreign policy of independence, peace and friendship.

Papers convey the reaction of political and public circles of South Korea and various countries to the Gulf war.

NODONG SINMUN reports that developing countries are strengthening cooperation in various fields and the general secretary of the African National Congress of South Africa called on the international community not to lessen the pressure on the Pretoria regime.

NODONG SINMUN on National Reunification

SK1901112891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1021 GMT 19 Jan 91

["Great National Unity Is Decisive Guarantee of Accelerating Reunification of the Country"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a by-lined article entitled "Great National Unity is Decisive Guarantee of Accelerating Reunification of the Country."

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying in his New Year Address:

"In order to quicken national reunification, a great unity of the whole nation must be realized."

The article reads in part:

To achieve a great unity of the whole nation is a decisive guarantee of an early accomplishment of the historical cause of national reunification.

It is because national reunification is the independent cause of our nation which nobody can carry out in our stead, the cause of the whole nation which cannot be achieved merely by the efforts of the authorities or privileged classes.

It is also because great national unity makes it possible to strengthen the internal force of reunification and build up a strong motive force of reunification of the nation.

To achieve a great unity of the whole nation is quite possible. The Korean nation is a homogeneous nation that has lived in the same territory with the same blood, same language and culture from olden times, and a nation that has stronger sense of independence, patriotism and unity than any other nations. The solid national commonness and excellent spirit of our nation that have been inherited down through history constitute an important basis and conditions for a great unity of the whole nation.

Proceeding from the steadfast independent stand and noble compatriotic stand toward realizing the country's reunification by the efforts of our nation, the internal force of national reunification, at any cost, our party and the government of our republic, under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, are making every possible effort, with broad magnanimity and attraction, to achieve unity, cooperation and alliance with any one who loves the country and the nation and wants national reunification, not taking issue with his past records but transcending the differences in ideology, idea, political view, religious belief, system and party affiliation.

The accomplishment of the national reunification cause depends on how our nation, the driving force of the reunification, struggle in unity.

The historical cause of national reunification will be surely achieved when all the Korean people in the North, South and overseas who love the county and nation turn out in the nationwide struggle for national reunification, thoroughly smashing the moves of all hues of the splittists at home and abroad, in close unity under the banner of great national unity.

NODONG SINMUN Urges Adhering to Socialism

SK2001090091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0816 GMT 20 Jan 91

["It Is Immutable Law To Advance Along the Road of Socialism in Keeping With the Trend of History"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 20 (KCNA)—It has been clearly proven by the reality of our socialism which is being built and developed under the banner of the chuche idea that the people who hold fast to truth and principle and advance along the road of socialism surely emerge victorious, says NODONG SINMUN in a bylined article today.

It quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"Those who yield to the difficulties in the way of their advance, give up the principle and go astray from the orbit of history will not escape from failure and ruin; the people who hold fast to the truth and principle and follow the trend of history will surely emerge victorious. This is a lesson humanity has learned from the turn to the 21st century, a turn which is taking place in the complex struggle between the new and the old and between progress and reaction and in the confused situation."

It further says:

The great leader made it clear that victory belongs to the people who hold fast to truth and principle and follow the trend of history, at a time when the imperialists and reactionaries are bluffing, talking volubly about the "crisis of socialism".

Upholding truth and principle means to fight for defending and realising the demand of the popular masses for independence and their interests and giving them up means going against the realisation of this demand.

Holding fast to truth and principle and advancing along the road of socialism lead to victory firstly because no force on earth can bar the demand of the popular masses for independence and their aspiration.

Socialism is an ideal reflecting these demands and aspirations and a cause for their realization. Socialism is a new society which is in accord with the independent nature of the popular masses and the requirements of the developing history and the ideal of mankind which gives vibrant vitality and hope. That is why the vitality of socialism and the desire of the people for socialism cannot be checked.

The people who hold fast to truth and principle and advance along the road of socialism surely emerge victorious secondly because socialism is the most viable society where the creative ingenuity of the popular masses is fully displayed on the basis of collectivism.

The invincible might of socialism lies in its collectivist might. The might of the unity based on collectivism is a source of strong impetus to the development of society and history through the fullest display of the creative ingenuity of the popular masses.

The interests of the collective and the individuals fully correspond to each other in socialist society and, so, there can be no such practice as the interests of the collective are encroached upon in favor of the individuals, and vice-versa.

The unquestioned superiority of socialism and its bright future lie in that the entire people get united and promote the development of society with their creative efforts and give full play to the beautiful and noble style of life in the whole of society.

Maintaining truth and principle and advancing along the road of socialism leads to victory thirdly because socialism is a system chosen by the popular masses themselves.

The imperialists and reactionaries are challenging mankind's cause of independence, engaging themselves in a vicious anti- socialist campaign. But they can never break the faith of socialism deeply rooted in the hearts of the people and the manoeuvrings to turn back the wheel of history will face condemnation and rejection of ever larger number of people all over the world, declares the article.

South Hwanghae Province Holds Rally

SK1801102791 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Text] A rally of the working people in South Hwanghae province was held at Haeju Plaza to thoroughly implement the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address of this year and his recent teachings. Respectfully placed in the rally site was a portrait of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people. Placed at the rally site were the slogans, "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song" and "Long live the glorious Workers' Party of Korea." Also hung at the rally site were the slogans and large placards, "Let us thoroughly implement the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address of this year," "Let us effect a great revolutionary upsurge in all fronts of socialist construction by upholding the party's leadership," "Once the party has decided, we will do it," and "Let us overfulfill this year's national economic plan with firm faith in victory and optimism."

The rally was attended by Paek Pom-su, responsible secretary of the South Hwanghae provincial party committee and chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee; (Chang Chun-han), chairman of the South Hwanghae Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee; responsible functionarieas from local party, government, and administrative and economic organs; and responsible functionaries from local mass organizations, together with no less than 50,000 workers in the province.

The rally began with the singing of the song "General Kim Il-song." Paek Pom-su made a report at the rally.

[Begin Paek Pom-su recording] Upon receiving the New Year address of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, in the first morning of the hopeful new year amid boundless emotion and joy we have come to have the great honor of receiving the great leader's another programmatic teaching to South Hwanghae province this year. Receiving the great leader's New Year address and his programmatic teaching to South Hwanghae Province amid surging emotion all party members and the working people in the province are filled with the firm determination to vigorously carry out socialist economic construction under the banner of the chuche idea, the banner of socialism, with firm faith in victory and optimism and with a single-hearted united strength based on the chuche idea.

On the first morning of the new year the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the genius of the revolution, brilliantly elucidated the road along which our party and people should advance, and consulting with us about the economic work of South Hwanghae Province to be carried out in the beginning of the new year the great leader then set forth a militant task for the province. The great leader's New Year address and his teaching to South Hwanghae Province are programmatic guidelines and an encouraging banner in leading all party members and the working people in the province to effect a new great upsurge in socialist construction.

The great leader's New Year address and his teaching to South Hwanghae Province give party members and the working people in the province not only firm faith in the invincibility of socialism of our country, but also an indomitable fighting spirit. They also encourage all party members and the working people in the province to perform exploits in socialist economic construction.

As the respected and beloved leader taught, properly carrying out socialist construction at present is an honorable duty that our people have been assigned before the times and history. Upholding the great leader's New Year address this year and his programmatic teaching to South Hwanghae Province we should vigorously wage the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—and, in this way, should effect constant upsurges in all fronts of socialist construction. [applause and shouts of slogans] [end Paek Pom-su recording]

The reporter continued to say that by upholding the militant task set forth by the great leader and by rising up as one in the struggle for its implementation all party members and the working should fulfill, without fail, national economic tasks of the province such as agriculture, maritime products raising work on the sea, and light industry, and should, thus, make this year the year of proud victory again.

After the report, discussions were held. (Chang Chunhan), chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee, who participated first in the discussions, said that the working people in the province have the honorable but difficult task of further developing the economy and culture by upholding the great leader's New Year address and his recent teaching and continued: [begin (Chang) recording] First of all, I will regulate production at a high level as the great leader taught. For this, I will epochally increase production of the people's consumer goods by (?constantly) building raw material bases. At present, I will accelerate economic organizational work and [words indistinct] to produce 200,000 tons of phosphate fertilizer within (?this year) through a mass movement and, thus, will supply it to all [words indistinct] in the province until March. Along with this, I will complete to produce [words indistinct] rice cutting machines and trailing farm machinery [words indistinct].

By strengthening cooperation with [words indistinct] administrative and economic guidance committees of counties and cities and enterprises in the province I will [passage indistinct] dwelling construction in cities and rural areas. The task that we have been assigned this year is indeed vast. However, by highly displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude with the firm determination that once the party has decided we will do it and by solving any difficult problems relying on the upsurged revolutionary work of the masses, I will give a repo[illegible]n loyalty to the great leader and the dear leader. [End (Chang) recording]

Ho Pok-tok, chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial Rural Economy Committee, participated in discussions. He vowed to make this year a bumper year again by doing farm work this year scientically and technogically in conformity with the demands of the chuche farm method and continued: [Begin Ho Pok-tok recording] We will finish soil renovation work on farm land of 66,314 chongbo by the end of March by waging a mass movement as taught by the great leader so that we can overfulfill the production goal of grain crops and other agricultural products assigned to the province this year. At the same time, by vigorously waging the mass movement to produce [word indistinct] fertilizers and [word indistinct] fertilizer we will produce 200,000 tons of [word indistinct] fertilizer and 586,300 tons of [word indistinct] fertilizer this year [passage indistinct].

We will also properly wage variety (?cultivation) by following the principle of the right crop at the right place, will properly raise young rice by thoroughly preparing materials necessary for cultivating young rice, and will thus transplant rice in a timely manner. Thus, we will thoroughly do farming according to the demands of the chuche farm method.

Along with this, we will also concentrate efforts on producing meat, eggs, and fruit, on raising silkworms, and on cultivating tobacco. Thus, we will solve the problem of vegetables. We will solve meat problem by raising geese and increase the production of red pepper. We will lead our agricultural functionaries to do farming in a substantial manner.

All agricultural functionaries in the province, including myself, will boldly and broadly push ahead with the work of fulfilling the agricultural goal this year with high revolution-mindedness and combat capability. Along with this, we will conduct combat command at the head of the ranks in a revolutionary manner, like commanders of the anti-Japanese guerrillas in the past. We will thoroughly embody the chongsan-ri spirit and the chongsan-ri method in economic (?organization) and management [passage indistinct]. By vigorously inspiring cooperative farm members into farming battles [words indistinct] we will effect a leap again in this year's agricultural production and will overfulfill this year's agricultural production goal. Thus, we will give a report of loyalty to the great leader and the dear comrade leader. [shouts of slogans] [end Ho Pok-tok recording]

Next, Mun Yong-su, director of the Haeju Railway Management Bureau, participated in the discussions. He said that he will vigorously wage the struggle to improve transportation work in conformity with the increasing demands of the national economy and to accelerate the construction of new railways.

In addition, (Ho Hwang-sun), manager of Haeju smeltery; Pak Kyu-ho, deputy manager of the 56th construction station; (Choe Tok-man), chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the Socialist Working Youth League; and O Chong-chu, manager of the Haeju cement plant, participated in the discussions. They unanimously stressed that by vigorously struggling with firm determination and firm faith, holding aloft the slogan, "Once the party has decided we will do it, they will brilliantly fulfill their assigned tasks.

The rally adopted a resolution. The rally ended with the singing of the song, "We wish the great leader longevity."

Efforts Made To Expand Industry Ahead of Plan

SK2201155791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1526 GMT 22 Jan 91

["Many Industrial Establishments Under Reconstruction on Expansion Basis"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 22 (KCNA)—The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has taken steps to attain ahead of schedule major goals of economic construction envisaged in the Third Seven-Year Plan (1987-1993).

As part of them the state is directing big shares of investment to the reconstruction of the existing factories and enterprises on an expansion basis while building new industrial establishments.

A capacity expansion project is in full swing at the Musan mining complex, a leading iron headings production centre, to produce 11 million tons of iron headings annually.

This project is being pushed forward simultaneously at scores of objects including dressing plant No. 3 with a total floor space of tens of thousands of square metres.

Intermediate crushing systems Nos. 5 and 6 with a capacity of 2 million tons each, an indoor settling basin, ore dropping chute No.3 for scraped earth conveyers Nos. 4 and 5, a crushing ground and many other objects have already been completed.

A project to treble production capacity has entered the final stage at the Taehung youth general mining enterprise.

Technical preparations are near completion at the Anju District coal mining complex to develop an open-cast coal mine which will turn out millions of tons of coal annually.

Besides, capacity expansion projects are being propelled at the Komdok mining complex, the Sunchon District coal mining complex, the Taedaeri mine and many other units of the mining industry.

Expansion projects of metal and machine industries are progressing on a large scale.

The builders of the October 9 general steel works of the Chollima steel complex are carrying out their daily plans at more than 120 percent to complete ahead of schedule 24 construction units including a steel shop, a dust-absorbing centre, a scrap iron processing ground, a limestone calcinating kiln and raw material carriage system within this year.

The Kim Chaek iron and steel complex is speeding up the project from the beginning of the year after setting itself a goal of building an oxidic calcinating ball ore furnace and two blast furnaces at the Chongjin steel works outside its plan.

The Pyongbuk smeltery is stepping up the construction of the sulfuric acid production process No.2 and an oxygen plant shop at the final stage.

The Huichon general machine tool works is increasing the work speed with a plan to complete the construction of 12 objects to round off the production processes within the first half of this year, and the Kusong machine tool factory finished the architectural project of an uptodate machine tool production base with a total floor space of more than 28,000 square metres ahead of schedule and is now assembling the equipment with accelerated pace.

The state earmarks much fund for the chemical industry, reconstructing on an expansion basis the February 8 vinalon complex, the Sinuiju chemical fibre complex, the Namhung youth chemical complex, the Kilju pulp mill and other major chemical factories and setting up new production processes.

In particular, the Hungnam fertilizer complex completed the construction of a methanol production system and architectural projects to increase production capacity of fertilizers and sulfuric acid and is now vigorously assembling the equipment while carrying out its construction plan at over 120 percent.

Great successes have been reported from the reconstruction and expansion projects at the Pyongyang textile combine, the Hoeryong cornstarch factory, the Sariwon footwear factory and many other light industry factories and enterprises.

National Economy's Production Said Increasing

SK1801134791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1052 GMT 18 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 18 (KCNA)—Production is going up in different domains of the national economy of Korea.

The Power Industry Commission increased power production 31.3 percent in a recent week above the same period last year.

Entering this year the Komdok mining complex has boosted the daily average output of nonferrous metal ore 41 percent, ore carriage and treatment 30 percent each, pit construction, capital and preparatory tunnelling 15, 20 and 50 percent respectively above last year's peak.

More than 20 units of the complex have beaten their January targets and 6 units carried out their assignments under the Third Seven-Year Plan (1987-1993).

The Kaechon District coal mining complex has lifted the daily coal output 54 percent above the daily average of the previous month.

Rich harvests are reported from shallow sea culture farms. Those in South Hwanghae Province gathered in 1,000 more tons of sea tangles in recent few days than in the corresponding period last year.

Meanwhile, remarkable results have been reported from the rural areas of Pyongyang Municipality, South Pyongan and North Hwanghae Provinces, etc. in the full-scale drive to carpet nonpaddy fields with humus-soil for raising fertility.

South Korea

Iraqi Ambassador Says 'War Has Just Begun'

SK2201125391 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 22 Jan 91 p 22

[Report on an interview with Burhan K Ghazal, Iraqi Charge to the ROK, by reporter Sok Chong-hun on 21 January at the Iraqi Embassy in Seoul]

[Text] Burhan K. Ghazal (51), Iraqi ambassador to the ROK, met with this CHOSON ILBO reporter on 21 January and said: "The Gulf war has just started, and the U.S. troops and the allied troops will wage the longest and fiercest war of this century."

Charge Ghazal gave an interview that morning at his office on the fourth floor of the Iraqi Embassy in Hannam-tong, Yongsan District, Seoul. In the interview, he said: "I know that the ROK people who are still in Iraq are safe." He also said: "I believe that because not only Iraq but also almost all of the Arab countries like the ROK, it will be able to play an affirmative role in peacefully resolving the Gulf situation." [preceding two paragraphs are reporter's introduction]

[Sok] Have you received any special instruction from your government?

[Ghazal] We contact our government once a day. We have not received any special instructions. We have received information on how Iraq has been destroyed by the multilateral forces and texts of speeches by President Husayn and have distributed them to the Arab embassies to the ROK.

[Sok] How do you think the war will end?

[Ghazal] Western media have reported that Iraqi military facilities were almost destroyed at the start of the war. However, this is not true. The fact that Iraq has begun large-scale counterattacks proves this. The United States appears to have thought that, just like Panama and Grenada, Iraq would be defeated in two or three days. This is a miscalculation. The war has just begun and will be the longest fierce and "bloody" war in this century.

[Sok] What do you think of the ROK's decision to send a medical team to the Gulf?

[Ghazal] I think it natural that the ROK join the multilateral forces because it has maintained close relations with the United States. This is a matter that the ROK Government must decide. However, I expect that the ROK will consider the best policy for peace in the Middle East region.

[Sok] Iraq attacked Israel in order to turn this war into a war between the Arabs and the non-Arabs.

[Ghazal] As a member of the multilateral forces, Israel has already sent 63 Air Force airplanes to Saudi Arabia and is attacking Iraq. Our attack against Israel is just a counterattack.

[Sok] What do you think of President Husayn?

[Ghazal] I have met him only on official occasions. I do not know him personally. However, all the Arabs are proud of him as a person who totally rejects foreign intervention in the Arab region.

[Sok] Do you have any special requests for the ROK people and their government?

[Ghazal] Almost all the Arab countries like the ROK very much. I believe that because it has maintained close relations with the United States, the ROK will be able to play an affirmative role in maintaining peace in the Middle East.

[Following two paragraphs are reporter's commentary] Charge Ghazal did not elaborate on what the ROK can do to resolve the situation. He said that he has not contacted the U.S. ambassador to the ROK since the outbreak of the war.

Charge Ghazal, who first came to the ROK to assume his post last October, said that he has been very happy in the ROK with his family and that he was worried about the safety of his relatives in Iraq.

'Pro-Iraq' Foreign Nationals Under Surveillance

SK2301053591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0513 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—South Korea has 307 visitors from ten pro-Iraq countries under surveillance to prevent possible terrorist attacks on Americans and other Westerners, Yi Hung-chu, senior official on the Gulf Emergency Committee, said Wednesday.

They include 238 Iranians, 19 Jordanians, 19 Libyans and 12 Sudanese. The 19 others are from six other countries, Yi said.

Diplomats are not included, he said.

Airports have intensified security for Northwest, United and Delta Airlines, putting two policemen on each bridge between the aircraft and airport gate to observe boarding and disembarking passengers, he said.

Information Minister Choe Speaks on Medical Team

SK2301053191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0459 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 23 (YONHAP)—Information Minister Choe Chang-yun said Wednesday that sending a military medical team to join the allied war effort in the Persian Gulf was good for South Korea's image in the international community.

In addition, the medics will help quickly restore peace and save valuable lives with their medical skills, Choe, the chief government spokesman, said in a statement.

The main body of the 154-member team was to leave for Saudi Arabia on Wednesday afternoon. A 20-member advance unit is already in Al-Nariya, a city 120 kilometers south of the Saudi-Kuwaiti border.

Choe offered his heartfelt encouragement and support to the departing team.

Government Ministers Brief DLP on Gulf Issues

SK1901015091 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Jan 91 p 1

[Text] Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku yesterday did not rule out the possibility that the United States would transfer U.S. troops in Korea to the Gulf if the war there is long.

Yi, however, did not elaborate, according to Pak Hui-tae, spokesman for the ruling Democratic Liberal Party. There are about 43,000 American troops in South Korea. The minister made the observation while briefing key DLP officials about the dispatch of a military medical team to Saudi Arabia, the spokesman said.

The United States will likely request an additional Korean contribution to the multinational forces, he said. But the minister said the possibility is very slim that Washington will ask Korea to send combat troops to the Gulf, the spokesman said. In a meeting at DLP headquarters, Yi said the 154-member military medical team will cost the government some 9,820 million won a year, if the group stays that long.

The government will soon conclude an agreement with Saudi Arabia on the status of the Korean military medical team, Yi said, adding that the agreement will grant immunity and privileges to the Korean medics and their guards.

Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said during the same meeting that the government would positively study U.S. requests, if any, for further financial contributions to the multinational force in the Gulf, according to spokesman Pak. Yi said the U.S. government has requested "continued contributions" by the governments of Korea and other allies to the coalition efforts in the Gulf.

He said 24 Koreans including 23 Hyundai workers and an employee of the Korean Embassy in Baghdad were still in Iraq as of Thursday. The foreign minister temporarily postponed dispatching a second chartered plane to the Middle East as the number of Koreans who want to return home has decreased, Yi said. Most airports in the Middle East have been closed, he said.

Energy and Resources Minister Yi Hui-il reported that his agency is studying way of allowing motor vehicles to operate every other day if the war in the Gulf drags on. He said the government is also considering restricting the amount of gasoline a motorist can buy through a coupon system. Kerosene may be rationed and the electricity supply could also be limited, Yi said.

The minister said the nation will have in stock enough oil for 180 days after non-Middle East oil is shipped to the country as scheduled. At present, the government has in stock 80.2 million barrels, he said. Under his ministry's three-phase contingency plan, he said, oil demand during the first month of war will be met by oil from non-Middle East countries. Oil stockpiled by oil refining companies and the government will be used later, the minister said.

During the DLP-government meeting, the party's adviser Chae Mun-sik said Korea should actively assist the U.S., in the Gulf war, taking into account the help from the United States during the Korean War (1950-53).

Rep. Yi Chi-ho made similar remarks.

Rep. Hwang Pyong-tae opposed the government's plan to raise oil prices, saying that international oil prices are expected to fall after the war, the DLP spokesman said.

Saudi Arabia Agrees on Legal Status of Medics

SK2201133291 Seoul YONHAP in English 1252 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and Saudi Arabia on Tuesday signed in Riyadh an agreement on the legal status of the Korean military medical team to be stationed in eastern Saudi Arabia to assist allied forces arrayed against Iraq, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday.

With the agreement signed between the two countries, all legal procedures needed for the stationing of the 154-member Korean medical team have been completed, a Ministry spokesman said.

Under the 11-point agreement, the Korean medics will be endowed with the same status guarantee the administrative and technical officials of diplomatic missions are supposed to enjoy.

All equipments and supplies to be provided to them will be treated duty-free, regardless whether they are for official use or not, the official said.

The host country will offer services and goods needed for the activities of the medical personnel, he said.

The medical team will leave Seoul Wednesday.

Justice Ministry Strengthens Immigration Rules

SK1801134291 Seoul YONHAP in English 1239 GMT 18 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 18 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean immigration officials have been ordered to strengthen exit and entry control to prevent infiltration of terrorists as Persian Gulf situation is becoming more serious, Justice Ministry said Friday.

The precautionary measure will continue until the war ends, according to the ministry. Entry inspection will be strict particularly for those from the Middle East in order to block off any Arab guerrillas attempting to enter the country, ministry officials said.

Authorities are also reported to be closely watching activities of some 200 people from the Gulf region who are currently in the country, checking into their purpose of stay.

The Justice Ministry has acquired the name list of international terrorists from Interpol, officials said. "There has not been any indication so far that foreign terrorists have come into the country," one official said, "but we will continue with the emergency measure 24 hours a day until the war ends." Customs Administration has also said it is stepping up inspection of travelers coming in from the Middle East to prevent any terrorist activities.

Location of Hyundai Employees in Iraq Sought

SK1901090291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0451 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 19 (YONHAP)—The Foreign Ministry said Saturday a Jordanian taxi driver has been sent to Baghdad to locate the whereabouts of 23 employes of the Hyundai Construction and Engineering Co. stranded in the war-plagued Iraq.

A spokesman for the ministry's Gulf task force said the Jordanian was asked to locate the Koreans and arrange their exit by land, adding he is supposed to return Amman by Sunday.

In addition, two staffers of the Korean Embassy in Tehran were dispatched to Bakhtaran, a checkpoint bordering Iraq, in hopes that the Hyundai workers may attempt to enter Iran by land, he said.

The spokesman said his task force had received an embassy report that some 500 Korean construction workers in northeastern Saudi Arabia, a region regarded as dangerous, were evacuated to the Kingdom's inland area.

He said 72 Korean residents in Israel were reported safe and that they were instructed to move out of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem to a safer place in the Jewish country.

Meanwhile, a four-member Munhwa Broadcasting Company (MBC) TV crew in the Iraqi capital, who were unaccounted for since the allied air strikes, arrived in Amman by land.

Plane To Leave for Jeddah To Evacuate Citizens

SK2201133191 Seoul YONHAP in English 1310 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—The government decided to send a 400-seat jetliner to Jeddah in Saudi Arabia on Thursday night to bring more Koreans back home, the inter-ministry Gulf crisis management headquarters said Tuesday.

The Boeing 747 will land at Jeddah Friday morning to fetch 400 Koreans, 100 from Jeddah and 300 from

Riyadh, and return to Seoul Saturday morning, according to the emergency task force.

Since the chartered Korean Air plane is allowed to land only at Jeddah, Koreans in Riyadh will be moved to Jeddah by land, it said.

The plane will carry gas masks and antidotes to be distributed to the Korean citizens staying in the Gulf region.

Gulf Involvement Mounts for Citizenry

SK2301015391 Seoul KOREA DAILY in English 23 Jan 91 p 6

[Editorial: "Gulf War Hits Closer to Home"]

[Text] How are Koreans reacting to their initial taste of the Gulf war, which is entering its sixth day? The war is being fought not only in Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other neighboring Persian Gulf countries but also in living rooms all over the world via television.

Most of the tragic war scenes are, of course, shown in the United States, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, Germany and other countries which are directly engaged in the hostilities. In addition, they are viewed with equal concern and interested in other countries not directly involved.

Concern among Koreans about the war has been mounting. A 154-member Korean Army medical team is leaving for Saudi Arabia to support the U.S.-led coalition force. This is in addition to financial contributions Korea earlier committed to the allies.

As the fighting drags on, one cannot rule out the possibility that the country will be forced to increase its share of the war burden, which remains a token amount at the moment. It is even possible that the time may come when Seoul has to consider dispatching combat troops to the Gulf theater, reviving our memories of the nightmare of the Vietnam war.

But Koreans in general are silent on this issue, although a few minor anti-war demonstrations have been reported in the nation, mainly among disaffected university students. The likelihood of Korea's direct involvement has been denied by the government, which says it has never received any U.S. request to that effect.

Koreans themselves live under a threat of war to which both the Korean and U.S. military forces are the major deterrent. The presence of U.S. forces in Korea brings the Gulf war closer to home. Bilingual Koreans have access to reports of the war on AFKN [Armed Forces Korea Network], the U.S. Army channel in Korea, which relays the broadcasts of major American networks more quickly and more often than domestic channels.

Despite these factors and the moral aspect of the hostilities, the Gulf war is remote for Koreans, at least geographically. Its direct impact so far has been mainly psychological and economic, coming through oil pipelines.

A war generally means shortages. For Korea, whose economy depends heavily on imported oil and overseas markets, the first message from the war is austerity. The Korean government has not enforced anything close to rationing of oil, although it is mandatory for motorists to keep their cars at home once every 10 days. This rule, which is enforced based on car plate numbers, is being observed by the vast majority of drivers.

There is also a chance that oil rationing as well as a further ban on the use of cars will be imposed.

People in Korea are exercising austerity in many other areas in response to government calls for voluntary restraints in oil-related consumption. Most of the night entertainment establishments continue to report sharply decreased business. So do airline companies and travel agencies, with passengers cancelling their travel plans out of both security and financial considerations.

The war, of course, has not been without other side effects. Thus far, people are not rushing to hoard goods. However, the prospect of oil shortages and price increases is spurring some retailers of oil products to cheat in numerous ways. The news of the war has frozen most of the property markets. Reports say that the possibility of a prolonged war is feeding inflation psychology and prompting owners to take their properties off the market.

On a more optimistic note, however, the war in the Gulf and the grim prospects on the export front are prompting Koreans to close ranks, making the general public more frugal and unionists more moderate in their wage demands this year.

The war, like any major war in the past, will result in huge numbers of human casualties. At this solemn moment, we Koreans, like people all over the world, should pay more attention to the universal problem of human tragedy than our own greed underlying a host of white-collar crimes and the resulting social problems. The social implications of the war to Koreans are no less crucial than other considerations.

Team Spirit Exercise Delayed Until March

SK2301020691 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 23 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] It has been learned that in spite of the Gulf situation, the Team Spirit-91 ROK-U.S. joint military exercise will be staged for 10 days beginning mid-March.

On 22 January, a Defense Ministry official said that "the two nations of the ROK and the United States planned to conduct the Team Spirit-91 exercise beginning 24 January as scheduled by mobilizing troops from the U.S. mainland and overseas military bases. However, the two nations decided to conduct the exercise in March due to the U.S. involvement in the Gulf and mobilization of equipment to this area. It is expected that its scale will be reduced and duration will be shortened."

Team Spirit Reports Conflict

SK2301005391 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 23 Jan 91 p 2

[Text] The annual Team Spirit defense exercise may be delayed this year because of the Gulf war, according to Defense Ministry sources yesterday.

Contrary to reports that the Team Spirit exercise this year would be conducted as usual and may start Jan. 24, the sources said that the delay seems inevitable now that the size of U.S. troops to be airlifted from the U.S. mainland is not yet decided because of the Gulf war.

They predicted that this year's Team Spirit, the ROK-U.S. combined defense exercise, may be scaled down and may be conducted in a command-post-exercise (CPX) style.

The sources also said that only a small number of U.S. military personnel may participate in this year's Team Spirit. They did not say when Team Spirit will be undertaken.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) said he had nothing to comment on when the Team Spirit '91 will start, whether it will be scaled down, or whether the Gulf war has any influence on the plan for this year's Team Spirit.

PPD Chief Meets No Tae-u To Discuss Problems

SK1901101391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0635 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u and opposition leader Kim Tae-chung agreed Saturday that the Gulf war had caused a national crisis and promised to cooperate in solving it.

In a two-hour meeting over breakfast at No's official residence, Chongwadae, they agreed the Gulf war would gravely affect the Korean economy and security and promised to make non-partisan efforts to overcome the difficulties. No asked Kim to support a government move to send a 154-member military medical team to join the U.S.-led multinational forces arrayed against Iraq.

"If the government can guarantee that dispatching a medical team will not lead to dispatching combat troops, our party will not oppose it. We are willing to hold sincere supra-partisan consultations with the government party for the nation's socio-economic stability and to cooperate in efforts to prevent North Korea from misjudging the security situation on the Korean peninsula," Kim was quoted as saying by Chongwadae sources.

No said he had neither been requested to send combat troops nor been asked to talk about it. No heads the ruling Democratic Liberal Party and Kim the Party for Peace and Democracy. The government sent a motion on dispatching the medical team to the National Assembly Thursday for approval in an extra sitting scheduled for Monday.

The PPD and other opposition parties have denounced the move as the first step toward Korean involvement in the Gulf war and predicted it will lead to sending combat troops.

On local council elections, slated for this spring, the two party leaders agreed to form a joint committee to discuss making them fair. No said he was resolved that the elections would be fair "at any cost" and Kim said he wholly agreed with the president.

Kim said the date and method of the elections should be determined by inter-party agreement and proposed that they be conducted simultaneously in May in both large and small districts.

No said he believed the elections should be advanced as electioneering was already picking up pace, but that the central Election Management Committee and Home Ministry were pointing to managerial problems.

No and Kim agreed to make efforts to complete revision of the National Security Law and the law on the National Agency for Security Planning and to enact a law on the political neutrality of police during the extra session of the National Assembly.

Kim suggested key officials of the ruling and opposition camps tackle the revision, but No said it would be more "reasonable and effective" to let assembly committees deal with it.

Kim called for revision or abolition of the political fund law's provisions on fund-trusting, but No said scrapping the provisions would result in rampant secret dealings between the political parties and donors. Under the provisions, donors trust political funds to the central election management committee after designating the recipient.

As the law stands, the ruling party gets the lion's share of political funds and the opposition parties are largely ignored.

Saying the government's purchase of 8.5 million som (1.224 million tons) of grain last year fell far short of farmers' expectations and might spark anti-government movements, Kim said the government should buy another 1 million som (one som equals 144 kilograms). No virtually rejected this, suggesting that purchasing more grain would undermine "the basic principles of agricultural administration."

On Kim's proposal to begin television and radio broadcasts to North Korea and allow South Koreans to tune in to North Korean broadcasts, No said it was difficult at present as North Korean broadcasts contain propaganda and the two sides use incompatible technology.

Kim proposed South Korea abstain from unilaterally seeking U.N. membership this year, but No said it was more "realistic" for Seoul to join the world body first and be followed by Pyongyang.

Meeting reporters at his office later in the day, Kim said No had promised not to send combat troops to the Gulf and not to mobilize military reservists to in the on-going campaign against crime.

"President No and I failed to reach complete agreement on the date and method of the local elections, but president No said he would fully consider the opinions of the opposition parties," Kim said. As for political funds, No said he would encourage businesses to make donations to opposition parties, Kim said. Kim quoted No as saying he would not oppose the introduction of proportional representation in local parliaments if ruling and opposition politicians agreed on it.

* Launch of Communications Satellite Planned

912C0065 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 8 Dec 90 p 10

[Article by reporter Kim Yong-sop]

[Text] Korea will open a full-blown satellite communications era by launching a communications satellite, Mugunghwa [named after the Korean national flower] at the end of 1995, which will provide various communications services. Prior to launching the Mugunghwa, the government is planning to provide three big satellite services, including the television service by a rented communications satellite, Intelsat V, from 1992.

With respect to the recent social concern in Korea caused by the so-called radiation "spillover" from the Japanese communications satellites, which made it possible for the Korean people to watch Japanese TV programs in Korea, there is a growing concern over the area which the Korean communications satellite will cover.

According to the size of the satellite that the Ministry of Communications and the Korea Telecommunications Authority (KTA) are finalizing, the coverage area of the Satellite Mugunghwa will encompass the Soviet Union and China and even some Southeast Asian countries if the center of the radio wave beam shifts from the originally planned city of Taechon to the north.

In this event, it is possible for Koreans living in these countries to watch Korean TV programs if the methods of signal transmission are the same and the relations with these nations are improved.

The method of television signal transmission that Korea is currently adapting is the American method called the NTSC (National Television System Committee), which is good for transmitting both black and white, as well as color signals. Japan, the Philippines, and Myanma (formerly Burma) also adapt the same method.

The Soviet Union, however, adapted the French method called SECAM (Sequential Color and Memory), while most of the Southeast Asian nations, including China and North Korea adapted the German method called PAL (Phase Alternation Line). Therefore, unless Korea adapts the same method of signal transmission as the neighboring countries, it will not be easy to share the same TV programs with Koreans living in these countries.

"The radiation spillover is controlled by the signal intensity allowed by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), one of the international satellite communications regulatory bodies," according to Cho Pyong-ha, director of the satellite program in the Ministry of Communications.

Thus, in the case of the Mugunghwa, which will cost 300 billion Korean won, the intensity of the microwaves transmitted from the transponders aboard the satellite should be reduced to that below the maximum limit specified by the ITU by the time it reaches the Earth from 36,000 km above the equator.

This limit is minus 103 decibel-watts (dBW) per square meter, which is applied to coverage areas excluding its own nation. This means that the intensity of the microwaves should be reduced to one ten-billionth of the original intensity by the time it reaches the Earth from the satellite.

The reason why Korea cannot officially protest against the so-called "cultural invasion" by the Japanese television programs in Korean TV's via the Japanese satellite is that the intensities of the microwaves from the Japanese communications satellite are -122 dBW in Seoul, -119.7 dBW in Pusan, and -109.7 dBW, which are substantially weaker than the internationally allowed maximum limit of -103 dBW.

The Korea Telecommunications Authority will launch two satellites, a main one and an auxiliary one, of the first generation, 650-kg class Satellite Mugunghwa. The main unit will be loaded with eight transponders for communications and three transponders for television broadcasting, which together will manage 3900 communications (voice) circuits, four television channels, and three direct broadcasting satellite (DBS) channels.

Once the satellite communications services start, there will be no area in the nation which will suffer from poor signal reception, since the DBS method will make it possible for any part of the country to receive the TV programs via satellite by small antennas.

The VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal), a small Earth station terminal, which requires small antennas and low receiving power, will revolutionize data communications and will make the video signal transmission possible for the image telephone concept.

Furthermore, satellite communications will make High Definition TV and video conference more widely used. It is also expected that satellite communications will support Korea in taking a leading role in establishing a communications block in the Pacific Rim nations.

* Trade Deficit Reportedly To Reach $6.9 Billion

912C0066 Seoul HANGUK KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 7 Dec 90 p 3

[By reporter O Tong-hon]

[Text] An emergency signal is on in the trade community. It is because the trade deficit reached $5.549 billion by the end of November 1990, which is already substantially higher than the government's estimate of the total deficit of $5.0 billion in 1990. It is predominently anticipated that next year's deficit will be even larger than this year's.

Under such circumstances, the Korea Institute for Economics and Technology (KIET) disclosed the trade prospect for next year in the report, "The Prospect of Regional Export and Import," released on 6 December.

Next year's trade deficit is predicted to increase to $6.9 billion resulting from the predicted export of $69.2 billion, an eight percent increase from 1990, and an import of $76.1 billion, a 10 percent increase from 1990, according to the KIET report.

The export by industries is predicted in the report as follows:

Textiles

The combined effect of a high wage increase of a yearly average of 15 percent and an 8.9 percent increase in the value of the Korean won during the period 1987 and 1989 resulted in an unprecedented reduction of exports in the shoe industry.

It is predicted that the exports will increase next year by about 6.6 percent compared to this year's for the following reasons: the devaluation of the Korean won, the stagnating wage increase, the settlement with the United States of the dispute over sweater dumping, and an improved condition for export to Japan due to an increase in value of the Japanese yen.

Shoes

In contrast to the 6.3 percent decrease in 1989, shoe exports achieved a remarkable increase of 25.8 percent during the first half of 1990, compared to the same period last year. The achievement was made possible by efforts to increase the average price through quality improvement and to diversify the export market.

It is also predicted that the exports in 1991 will amount to about $5.0 billion, an 18.1 percent increase compared to 1990, mainly due to an expected increase in demand from the major industrial nations including the United States, Japan, and the EC, domestic efforts on quality improvement to boost the price, the devaluation of the Korean won, and the stagnating wage increase.

Electric and Electronic Goods

The increase in exports stopped at a mere 2.2 percent during the first half of 1990, compared to the same period in 1989 due to a weakened competitiveness caused by a devaluation of the Japanese yen and poor adaptation to the change in demand pattern in the markets of industrial nations.

It is predicted that despite such adverse factors as an increase in the Japanese production from local factories and an economic slowdown in industrial nations, the export in 1991 will amount to $18.8 billion, an eight percent increase compared to 1990, due to the favorable factors of an increased competitiveness caused by an increase in value of the yen and increased sales of home appliances and parts to communist block countries.

Automobiles

The reduced buying power of major industrial nations due to a persistently high oil price and whether or not people's preference for smaller cars will revive, as was the case during the first and second oil crises in the past, are the two key variables which determine the atmosphere of next year's automobile export.

The decrease in export amount is predicted to continue in 1991, following the same trend in 1989 and 1990, due to a severe competition in small car sales in the United States, Korea's largest automobile market, and to the decrease in demand in the Southeast Asian countries and Eastern European countries. The export in 1991 will amount to $2.4 billion, a decrease by 3.7 percent compared to 1990.

Machinery and Ships

Due to the domestic industry's weakened competitiveness caused by high oil prices and a decreased import demand by the United States, the machinery export in 1991 is predicted to be $5.5 billion, an increase by only 10 percent compared to 1990; whereas the import will be $15 billion, an increase by 19 percent, mainly due to an increased capital investment for automation of domestic factories.

The export of ships is expected to amount to $1.95 billion in 1990, an increase by 52.3 percent compared to 1989, mainly due to an increased demand for replacing aged ships in the world. In 1991, however, despite the increased sales price of new ships, the export in 1991 is predicted to be $2.15 billion, a substantially reduced increase rate of only 10.3 percent, compared to the 52.3 percent in 1990, due to a decreased demand of new ships caused by the Persian Gulf Crisis.

Steel and Nonferrous Metals

Because of an overall weakening of competitiveness in price, the increase in export in 1991 is predicted to be only 2.3 percent, followed by the 4.8 percent increase in 1990.

The export of nonferrous metals will be reduced to only $550 million in 1990, a 19 percent decrease from 1989, mainly due to a substantially reduced export of electric copper. Because of the anticipated supply shortage as in 1990 and also of a lack of any special factor which can induce an increase in export, only a small increase in export is predicted in 1991 in the area of finished copper and aluminum products.

Petrochemical and Fine Chemistry

Due to an agressive effort to export petrochemical products to redirect an excessive domestic supply, the export will increase by 33.3 percent in 1991, followed by the 33.1 percent increase in 1990.

The export of fine chemical products will also be increased substantially by 15.0 percent in 1991, followed by an 11.6 percent increase in 1990. Among the items which show an increasing export trend are medical products, paints, and photographic materials. The export of agricultural chemicals and additives, on the other hand, is expected to be reduced.

Regional Trade Prospect

Advanced Industrial Nations

The export to advanced industrial nations such as the United States, Japan, the EC, and Canada, which is predicted to decrease by a 3.3 percent in 1990, compared to 1989, is predicted to increase by 3.5 percent in 1991, mainly due to an increased export to Japan.

The export to Japan is predicted to increase by 10.4 percent in 1991, as compared to a 9.1 percent decrease in 1990; whereas the export to the United States and Canada will continue to decrease in 1991; and the export to the EC will increase by a 2.8 percent in 1991, as compared to the 3.4 percent increase in 1990.

Developing Nations

The export to developing countries in Asia, Central and South America, and Africa is expected to continuously increase by a relatively high rate of 15.5 percent in 1991, followed by a 7.8 percent increase in 1989 and a 13.6 percent increase in 1990.

In particular, it is predicted that the export to Central and South American nations will increase by 20.0 percent in 1991, and to African nations by 25.5 percent, as compared to 1990.

Communist Block Nations

It is predicted that the export to communist countries will amount to $3.51 billion, a 52.6 percent increase, compared to 1990, due to an opening of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and with other Eastern European communist nations.

The export to the Soviet Union will be $1.12 billion in 1991, a 150 percent increase compared to 1990. The export to Eastern European nations will be $1.04 billion in 1991, an 80 percent increase. The export to China is predicted to be $1.35 billion in 1991, a ten percent increase compared to 1990.

* Aerospace Science, Technology Detailed

912C0070 Seoul WOLGAN KUNSA SEGYE PYONGHWA in Korean No 12, Dec 90 pp 70-81

[Article by Chang Kuk, professor at Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology: "The Present State and Tasks of Korea's Aerospace Science and Technology"]

[Text]**I. Characteristics of ROK Aerospace Science and Technology**

The definition of the term science and technology as used in this article simply refers to the application of scientific knowledge obtained through basic researches for the purpose of devising useful objects. Inasmuch as basic research provides an answer to certain questions, a piece of new knowledge gained by it is its end product. When such knowledge is utilized to solve a problem or is used in producing a useful article, the end result is the spinoff offered by such knowledge.

Therefore, it may be said that applied research and technology are one and the same thing.

Technologies accumulated in the 200 years between 1700 and 1900 doubled the sum total of technologies accumulated in the period from the debut of mankind until the year 1700. In the six decades from 1900 to 1960, the total increased twice, and in the 10 years from 1960 to 1970, the total doubled again. Now it takes less than seven years to double the accumulation of technologies as the pace of technological development becomes literally explosive.

Understandably, aeronautics and space technology, which sit at the apex of scientific and technological development, require solid research and development. Aerospace technology may be characterized by the following requirements:

Achieving a high degree of performance, lessening the weight, devising the necessary aerodynamic shape and structure, attaining a high degree of hardness in materials, achieving low noise and pollution levels, and so forth.

Thanks to those requirements, the level of aeronautics and space technology has advanced way ahead of other fields of science and technology. As a result, the aircraft and space industries have a high proportion of very highly trained technical personnel. If we regard the year 1918, when German scientist Ludwig Prandtl announced his theory on the fluid flow distribution on a wing, as the genesis of basic aeronautics, and the year 1922, when Adolf Karl Rohrbach's factory in Berlin built a metal airplane, as the genesis of metal planes, the history of aeronautics is really very short compared with other fields of science and technology. In this short period, particularly, following World War II, aerospace science and technology and related industries have made amazing progress.

The extensive connection of the present-day aerospace industry with other technological fields is well illustrated by Figure 1. [Figure 1 is omitted]

The supportive industries supply some 250,000 kinds of parts, including mechanical, electric, electronic, and chemical systems. This figure is 10 times as large as that for the automobile industry.

The aircraft and space industry may be characterized as system engineering synthesizing all the creative technologies which utilize rapidly developing scientific knowledge in its own field and in the specialized supportive parts industries.

Inasmuch as the aerospace industry has become inseparable from our daily life, every country that seeks development is interested in aerospace science and technology and in the profitability of the aircraft and space industry. Of course, our country is not an exception. True, Korea lags behind others in the development of aerospace technology. However, considering the fact that the history of aerospace science is short, we are not too behind in terms of time.

This gap in time can be narrowed by the strong will and efforts of our people to catch up, and it is necessary for us to pass through the following three stages before securing advanced technology on our own:

First, learning technology thoroughly and diligently;

Second, assimilating the technology learned as our own;

Third, mastering technology and keeping it at a high level for a sustained period of time.

II. Stages of Development of Aerospace Technology

The ultimate goal of the ROK's aerospace industry is to produce aircraft and space engineering products on its own or by joint ventures, and sell them widely in the world market. To achieve this goal, the aerospace industry needs to go through appropriate stages of development and it also needs a lot of capital and time to nurture necessary manpower and technological capability.

1. Stage of carrying out maintenance and simple assembly production (1970-the early 1980's)

In the past, we engaged in aircraft maintenance and repairs, including overhaul of the fuselages and engines of military and civilian aircraft, and the excellence of the work done came to be recognized internationally. At the same time, we began to assemble whole aircraft using the blueprints and CAD/CAM [computer aided design/computer aided manufacturing] tapes furnished by the original manufacturers under contract. In this stage we were able to familiarize ourselves with the structures, materials, and parts of aircraft, but unable to acquire precision technology. Nonetheless, our aircraft factories became better equipped and we were able to build the foundation of our aircraft and space industry.

2. Stage of licensed production (mid-1980's -)

At this stage, we produced specific parts or built specific aircraft and flying space objects through the transfer of technology carried out in return for the licensing fees paid. The blueprints and CAD/CAM tapes needed in production were furnished by the licenser. The level of technology at this stage was one of assemblage or system licensing. However, assembling technology at this licensing stage, limited as it was, could be rapidly elevated to the world's standards.

3. Stage of joint production/development (1990's -)

The ROK is currently at this stage, in which, through technological cooperation, aircraft parts are produced and supplied to major clients. This stage is one in which designing as well as materials and production technologies are developed and improved. To this end, it is desirable to design and build small aircraft and conduct test flights at this stage. By having advanced technologies transferred through the FX or HX project, it is possible effectively to achieve the goals for this stage.

4. Stage of development on our own (the year 2000 -)

This is the stage in which we will design, develop, and produce our own aircraft and flying space objects. If our own development plan is successfully completed in this stage, the level of our technology will have entered the period of maturity. To promote further progress, we will have to spare no effort to develop our own technology still more by utilizing new and advanced scientific knowledge and technology and management methods.

5. Stage of international joint development and production (the 2010's)

At this stage we will be able to work out international joint development and production plans jointly with the aerospace industries in various industrialized countries on the strength of our own competitive technological capability. In that event, technological information will be exchanged and the burden of development expenses will be shared with foreign countries. To beat the competition in the world market, it is necessary to develop new technology. However, the development of new technology involves an immense cost and risk.

This cost and risk is too great for any single country to bear; for this reason, a number of countries need to participate jointly and share the burden together. The only way for the ROK to export aircraft and space engineering products will be through international joint production. For the details of contents of the stages of development, see reference materials (4), (5), (6), and (7). [Reference materials omitted]

III. Present State of ROK Aircraft Industry

The goal of the ROK Air Force for the year 2000 and beyond is to defend our land by building an air defense network for the whole of the Korean peninsula by the end of this century. Therefore, to achieve this important goal, it is necessary to lay the technological groundwork for mastering aerospace technology in this very important period which will mark the transition from the stage of subcontract production and parts processing to that of assembling important aircraft parts and synthesizing aeronautic technologies. The FX and HX projects will play an important role as the motive power for the development of the ROK's aerospace technology and serve as a springboard for the transfer of U.S. technology to Korea. The FX and HX plans are the product of a most laborious study and planning and have produced many reports.

A. The ROK's aerospace technology prior to the FX and HX plans

The ROK's aeronautics and space technology before the FX and HX projects may be characterized as one of aircraft overhaul, maintenance, repair, and simple assembly. Samsung Aerospace Industries is the lead contractor for the FX project to produce fighter planes under license. Daewoo Heavy Industries and the aerospace division of Korean Air will produce roughly one-third of the fuselage as major supporter firms. However, Samsung Aircraft will take charge of the final assembly of fighter planes.

Samsung Aerospace Industries embarked upon the production of a jet engine in 1980, and in 1984 it signed a contract with General Motors Allison to jointly build Allison-225 engines which could be used in helicopters or light planes. In 1986 it signed a contract for the maintenance of U.S. Air Force's T-56 engines, and also signed a contract with Pratt & Whitney to participate in the production of PW-4000 engines as a subcontractor. In addition, Samsung organized a joint production team with Bell Helicopter Company for the production of 412-SP commercial helicopters. It is now contemplating a plan to jointly produce Dehavill and Dash-8 sea reconnaissance craft with Boeing.

Daewoo Heavy Industries has made a large investment in the latest models of mechanical processing machines and plans to develop the world's largest aluminum stamping machine for the processing of large backbone mechanical components. In 1984 it produced the central part, side boards, ventral pins, and other fuselage sections of F-16 fighter planes. Daewoo also signed a contract with Dornier to assemble fuselages of Dornier-328 transports. In 1986, it tied up with Sikorsky to produce H-76 and S-76 helicopters.

The aircraft division of Korean Air, established in 1976, is doing aircraft overhaul and maintenance work in its large plant in Kimhae.

Korean Air was the first to produce a fixed-wing military airplane in Korea. In 1981 and 1986 it assembled F-5E and F-5F planes, respectively, and licence-produced McDonnell-Douglas 500-D and 500-MD helicopters. In addition, Korean Air produces the wing-end extensions of B-747-400's and flap track fairings made of alloy for B-747's, and it also assembles MD-80 passenger craft and produces alloy-made fillets for MD-11's.

For the specific fields of Korean aerospace firms, see Table 3.

Table 3: Types of Business for Each Field of Aircraft Industry (Date of Permit Under Aircraft Industry Development Law)

Division	Field	Subsection	Business Firms
Designated Business	Fuselage-Related Machines	Parts for Central, Front Fuselage Sections	Daewoo Heavy Industries (May 84)
		Processing of Fuselage- and Wing-Related Machines	Samsung Aerospace (Sep 84), Korea Heavy Industries (May 84)
	Avionics	Identification Devices	Taeyong Electronics Industries (Sep 84)
	Mechanical Equipment	Pylons	Korea Heavy Industries (Sep 84)
	Nonmetallic Materials	Refractory, FRP Products	Han-Kuk Fiber Glass (Sep 85)
Permitted Business	Aircraft	Fixed-Wing	Korean Air, Hyundai Precision & Industry
		Rotor	Korean Air, Samsung Aerospace, Daewoo-Sikorsky, Daewoo Heavy Industries, Hyundai Precision
	Engine	Fixed-Wing	Samsung Aerospace
		Rotor	Korean Air, Samsung Aerospace, Daewoo Heavy Industries
Permitted Business	Parts	Avionics	Goldstar Electric Company, AFCOA, Goldstar Precision, Korea Litton, Taeyong Electronics

Table 3: Types of Business for Each Field of Aircraft Industry (Date of Permit Under Aircraft Industry Development Law) (Continued)

Division	Field	Subsection	Business Firms
		Fuselage Equipment	Korean Air, Samsung Aerospace, Daewoo Heavy Ind, Korea Bell, Hyundai Precision
		Power Equipment, Attached Instruments	Korean Air, Daewoo Heavy Industries, Hyundai Precision, Tongyang Nozzle
	Repairs, Maintenance		Korean Air, Korea Shipbuilding & Engineering Corporation, Asiana Airlines, Korea Bell, Samsung-United, Samsung Aerospace

Table 4 lists joint ventures between Korean and foreign firms. Table 5 shows the technical levels of Korea's aircraft industry. To illustrate the present state of the ROK's aircraft designing ability, the members of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology designed a four-seat all-metal civilian plane and completed its detailed blueprint in 1988 and are now designing a five-seat metal plane (containing alloy materials in part). Its trial model will be built jointly by three firms for sale in the market.

Table 4: Joint Investments With Foreigners

Division	Samsung-United Air	Daewoo-Sikorsky Air	Samsung-Monarch Air
Domestic Investor	Samsung Aerospace	Daewoo Heavy Industries	Samsung Aerospace
Foreign Investor	U.T.C [United Technologies Corporation] (U.S.)	U.T.C (U.S.)	Monarch (U.S.)
Investment Scale	5 Billion Won	4 Billion Won	$180 Million
Domestic	2.55 Billion Won	2 Billion Won	$90 Million
Foreign	2.45 Billion Won	2 Billion Won	$90 Million
% of Foreign Investment	49 %	50 %	50 %
Business Purpose	F-100 Engine Overhaul	Sikorsky Helicopter Production	Aircraft Repairs, Remodeling
Division	Litton Korea	Korea Bell Helicopter	Sammi-Agusta Air
Domestic Investor	None	Korea Technologies Corporation	Sammi
Foreign Investor	Litton (U.S.)	Bell (U.S.)	Agusta (Italian)
Investment Scale	$8.5 Million	$1 Million	$2.25 Billion Won ($3.5 Million)
Domestic	None	$750,000	1.225 Billion Won [as published]
Foreigner	$8.5 Million	$250,000	1.225 Billion [as published]
% of Foreign Investment	100 %	25 %	50 %
Business Purpose	Production of Inertial Navigation and Special Avionics	Production of Bell Helicopter Equipment, Parts	Light Aircraft and Helicopter Production
Date of Permit	1 May 1982	4 August 1986	February 1989

Table 5: Technological Level of ROK Aircraft Industry

Division	Branch of Technology	Technological Level
Fuselage	Designing	Has Basic Technology Necessary for Designing Outer Structures
	Manufacturing, Processing	At High Level of Machine Processing Technology
		Material Remolding, Processing Technology at High Enough Level To Be On Its Own
		Precision Casting, Forging and Electronic Processing Technologies Far Behind
	Assembling	Has Most of Designing and Production Technologies, System Analysis Technology Except in Some Fields, in Addition to Various Special Inspection Skills Necessary in the Assembling Stage
	Test Evaluating	Ample Experience Accumulated in Air Tunnel and Flight Testing
		Highly Capable of Conducting Static and Strength Tests
		Far Behind in Drop, Fatigue, and Vibration Testing Technology.

Table 5: Technological Level of ROK Aircraft Industry (Continued)

Division	Branch of Technology	Technological Level
Engine	Designing	Far Behind in This Field of Technology, a More Difficult Field Than Fuselage Technology
	Manufacturing, Processing	Has Technology in Some Areas, Such as Welding, Electronic Processing, Pulverized Alloy
	Assembling	Considerable Experience Accumulated With Nearly Perfect Maintenance Capability
	Test Evaluating	Has Static Testing Capability in Test Cells, But Lacks Ability To Test in Flying Conditions
Materials	Aluminum Alloy	Capable of Aluminum Alloy for Construction Use, But Not for Aircraft Use
	Compound Materials	At Level Capable of Producing Carbon Fiber Glass for Sporting Equipment
	Super-Alloy	Producing Some Acid-Proof Parts, But Not Capable of producing Super-Alloy for Aircraft
	Titanium	No Production Capacity Due to Complex Extracting and Processing Processes, as Well as Technological Problems Involving Forging at Constant Temperature and Precision Casting
Mechanical Instruments	Designing	At Stage of Making Research Into Basic Technology, But Being Not Comprehensive Nor Organized, Lacks Links to other Technological Fields
	Manufacturing, Processing	Has Precision Processing Technology, But Weak in the Underlying Basic Technologies Such As Special Precision Processing
		Lacks Precision Casting and Forging, Precision Metal Molding Technologies.
		Has Pneumatic, Hydraulic Control Technologies, But Lacks Experience in Producing Equipment for Aircraft Use
	Assembling	Has Some Assembling Technology, But Weak in Underlying Technologies and Equipment in Precision Assembly
	Test Evaluating	Wholly Reliant on Quality Assurances Given by Advanced Countries, Due to a Lack of a Systematic Parts Testing and Inspection System
Avionics	Designing	Has Designing Technology in Some Areas, But Totally Lacks Integration Designing Capability
		Far Behind in Software/Programming
	Manufacturing, Processing	Technologies Available for Production of Semiconductors, Computers, Communications Equipment
		Has Process Development Technology
		Incapable of Manufacturing Strategic Parts and Software Due to the Reluctance of Foreign Manufacturers To Transfer Technologies Involving Key Parts
	Assembling	Accumulated Assembling Technology in Related Industries Available
	Test Evaluating	Lacks Systematic Testing Ability

In its early stage the ROK aircraft industry drew attention from its clients thanks to the attraction of the supply of low-cost, high-quality parts produced by the skilled technicians. To be sure, the period of transition from that level of technology to a higher level through the FX and HX projects is very important, but it may be accompanied by difficulties due to various factors. After 1990, Korean products will be unable to maintain their competitive edge in the world market over products made in developing countries due to continuing price hikes. Another factor is the rising cost of production caused by intensive investments in factories and equipment to receive orders from foreign aircraft companies.

However, these difficulties in the transitional period should be allowed to have ill effects on mastering technologies through the FX and HX projects.

B. FX and HX projects and the future of the ROK aerospace technology

In conjunction with the FX and HX projects, U.S. aerospace companies are proposing an aerospace industry development plan (AIDP), and this plan will serve as a locomotive engine for producing Korea's own high-performance aircraft, providing an opportunity to develop production technologies, introduce a new management method necessary for the manufacture of an advanced aerospace system, and master the latest aerospace designing skills.

Under the proposal, Korea will, first of all, design medium-weight aircraft, such as trainers, STOL [short takeoff and landing] aircraft, or helicopters, with the help of U.S. technologies. These medium-weight aircraft should be produced in the near future by using the currently available technologies and by making the best use of the technology transfer. This project should be made a national task in which the nationwide pool of specialists are mobilized in keeping with the technology transfer.

To produce aircraft in our country on our own, it must be made possible to secure a supply of high-quality parts and components, such as machinery, electronic equipment, computers, materials, communications equipment, and measuring instruments, from thousands of domestic parts makers. However, at the present stage, probably only a few firms may be capable of satisfying the needs of the aircraft manufacturers. Accordingly, a large number of parts will have to be imported. For instance, it is impossible at this stage to procure domestically the complex information collecting computer network connected to the vital consolidated information processing system, as well as the early warning system and technology. Nonetheless, Lucky-Goldstar, Litton Korea, and other domestic firms are interested in the aircraft electronics field.

Aircraft parts are mostly supplied by small- and medium-scale firms. But, in reality, the technological standards of these firms are not so high because of a lack of facilities for training highly skilled technicians and workers. Inasmuch as much time and expense is required to secure skilled technical personnel, it is urgent to draw up and implement a pertinent policy and take measures to speed up investment as soon as possible.

IV. Present State of ROK Space Science and Technology

In view of the illimitable possibilities of utilizing space and the bright prospect for acquiring space technology and participating in the space industry, Korea Astronomical and Space Research Institute was established in 1986 as an adjunct to the Telecommunications Research Institute. The space engineering group of the Astronomical and Space Research Institute and the aeronautics research group of Korea Mechanical Engineering Research Institute were merged into the Aerospace Research Institute as an adjunct to Korea Mechanical Engineering Research Institute in 1989. Although the field of space science and technology is vast and it takes a long time to master and develop it, our country plunged into the field of space science and technology. Without doubt the ripple effects of space science and technology are enormous, and we are bound to benefit from our space projects.

In the past the ROK carried out no noteworthy projects in the field of space technology, except for the development of a short-range solid-propellant rocket and the operation of a ground tracking system for communications satellites.

At present the ROK is pushing the development of an optical wave rocket and a scientific satellite, and through these projects it is prepared to participate in international projects for weather forecasting, resources survey, and remote-controlled land development survey. The plan for launching a scientific satellite consists of these three stages:

State 1: The firing of our own sounding rocket in 1991.

Stage 2: The firing of a small experimental spaceship into an earth orbit.

Stage 3: The firing of a communications satellite jointly developed by the ROK and foreign experts.

The purpose of the scientific satellite launching plan is to master technologies related to space craft designing, propulsion, control, orbital analysis, remote telecommunications, payload, materials, reliability, and so forth, by putting a scientific satellite weighing 500 to 1,000 kilograms on a 500-kilometer orbit. For the study of space environment, problems involving vacuum, weightlessness, electronic engineering, high and low heat, and so forth will be tested by an array of equipment, including a solar simulator, EMI/EMC [expansion unknown] in the space chamber. All these researches will be undertaken as part of a major national policy project, including the launching of a scientific observation rocket, through the transfer of technologies from advanced countries and by mutual cooperation among the experts in academic organizations, research institutes, and corporations.

V. Aerospace Research Institute and Support for Aerospace Science and Technology

Korea Aerospace Research Institute was established in 1989 for the purpose of raising the level of our aerospace science and technology onto the world standard and helping to meet our national requirements. The major goal of this institute is to study basic and applied technologies, promote the development of aerospace science and technology, and carry out projects in support of government policy. Its detailed tasks include the development of system integration, short-range takeoff and landing craft, jet trainers, tilted-rotor craft, and commuter helicopters. Installed in the institution are subsonic, supersonic, and ultrasonic wind tunnels. As for the research and development facilities under major aerospace firms, Samsung Aerospace Industries, Daewoo Industries, and Korean Air, respectively, have the Aerospace Research Center, the Space and Aeronautics Research Center, and the Aeronautics Research Center for the development of the technologies they need.

To save time and capital, it is necessary to set up a system by which mutual cooperation and a facile exchange of technical information can be carried out between these private research centers and state-operated research institutes and between the government and universities.

Another supportive factor is the nationwide support of the whole public. This support is as indispensable and as useful as are aircraft firms, aircraft, and the personnel of the aircraft industry. When the public fails to recognize the importance of aerospace science and technology, it will have little interest in aerospace. Therefore, aerospace science and technology should be backed up by state-sponsored education from the kindergarten to the college level. This is to say that not only the government, the military, the research institutes, business, and the universities, but also the ordinary people should pool their efforts to develop aerospace science and technology.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

More Reportage on Reaction to Gulf War

Country Wants Role in Talks

BK2201153491 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1430 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Malaysia wishes to take part in any talks to end the Gulf war and is ready to host such talks. Speaking in Kuala Lumpur today, Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said Malaysia has closely monitored the latest developments of the war, especially efforts to end the war.

He noted that Malaysia offers the best place for any talks to end the conflict. Malaysia also supports efforts by any party seeking an end to the war. In this connection, Datuk Abdullah stressed that Malaysia continues to support the struggle to liberate Palestine even though that state supports Iraq.

Bank Attacked To Protest War

BK2201155291 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1430 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] A group of unidentified men hurled iron pipes at the glass wall of the Standard Chartered Bank at (Bagan Dua) Road in Butterworth this morning apparently in protest against the Gulf war. Inspector (R. Dhanarajan), local police chief, confirmed he had received the report on the incident and said police would launch a thorough investigation into the matter.

A senior bank executive said there was a large hole in the glass wall. Bank security officers found the hole at about 0900 in the morning. Thrown together with the iron pipes were four pieces of a written message, which voiced opposition to the U.S.-led attacks against Iraq.

Editorial Views U.S. Reasoning

BK2101132591 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Jan 90 p 12

[Editorial: "Thunder and Lightning in the Gulf"]

[Text] Under the dark cover of a new moon, the iron birds of prey struck at one fell swoop, dropping tonnes of explosives in their pre-dawn raid on prized targets in the Iraqi capital. This initial air assault by an armada of the US and allied warplanes early yesterday has inevitably ignited a conflagration in the Persian Gulf, the magnitude of which cannot be prefigured at this moment. The Americans have called their military campaign Operation Desert Storm. The political storm that has been brewing since Iraq's invasion and occupation of Kuwait has finally burst to emit thunder and lightning.

On the eve of war, the clash of arms looked imminent. But no one could have justly said that the conflict was inevitable. Right-thinking people throughout the world can only regret that the storm (with all its unpredictable course and possibly ruinous fallout) has been deliberately triggered off. UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was reported to have said: "After all my efforts, after all the efforts of so many countries, so many different personalities, how can I tell you, dear friends, that we are now facing a war?"

The UN chief played his part. He did his utmost to prevent the outbreak of war in the politically-embroiled Gulf. It was not his fault that all his efforts came to nought. Like many others opposed to war, he exprssed deep sorrow that hostilities should have been initiated.

Although violence erupted in the Gulf after more than five months of mutual threats, UN-imposed economic sanctions, and diplomatic skirmishes, the first blow was struck barely 17 hours after the expiry of the UN deadline for Iraqi withdrawal. Has President George Bush been hasty in pressing the trigger? Why has he decided to cross the Rubicon? Although the UN Security Council Resolution 678 (passed on November 29) has authorised the use of "all necessary means" (including the language and rhetoric of force), it has not ruled out further diplomacy or the continuation of other means like economic sanctions to persuade the Iraqi leader to abide by international law. And although the same resolution has called on Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait by January 15, the deadline cannot simply be interpreted as an irrevocable call to take up arms.

Why act now? President Bush's answer is that the world "could wait no longer" for President Saddam Husayn to withdraw from Kuwait. He said that it had become clear that economic sanctions alone would never compel a withdrawal. Well, that is one man's version, ostentatiously speaking on behalf of the international community, and obviously expecting sanctions (perhaps blithely forgetting the South African experience) to bite within such a short period of time.

On the other side, the question of the strong-willed Iraqi President being unduly stubborn or intransigent could well arise. After all, he has refused to budge despite a dozen UN resolutions calling on him to do the necessary. He has reportedly turned a deaf ear even to the UN chief's last-minute appeal to avert a military confrontation.

Of course, there are even more disturbing questions to be asked. According to an AP [ASSOCIATED PRESS] report, Thursday's initial predawn aerial assault was mainly directed against Iraq's command centres, air bases, chemical weapons plants, missile sites and nuclear research complexes. No ground forces had so far been involved. The questions are: Will the offensive remain limited in its objectives and scope? Can it be contained? Or will the fighting escalate to a full-blown war? Can the war be prosecuted quickly? Or will it become another dreaded Vietnam for the American forces and their allies? Since more than one million troops are squared off and armed to the teeth with some of the most modern means of mass destruction, the world must hope that the military conflict in the Gulf can be resolved quickly.

Ministry Figures Economic Impact

BK2101095491 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] The Ministry of Primary Industries is closely monitoring developments in the Gulf war to determine its impact on Malaysia's commodities. The minister, Datuk Sri Dr. Lim Keng Yaik, says so far Malaysia has been able to maintain its commodity base.

He was speaking to newsmen in Kuala Lumpur after opening a national seminar on national forestry policy. Datuk Sri Dr. Lim pointed out that if the war prolongs, it is bound to affect the economies of the developing world. As far as Malaysia is concerned, a prolonged war is likely to affect its commodities, such as rubber, tin, and timber. However, steps are being taken to explore new markets. Arrangements should also be made to divert Malaysia's shipping away from the Gulf region. Datuk Sri Dr. Lim called on the business community not to be unduly alarmed over the Gulf war situation. In the case of Malaysia's palm oil, the minister said there is no cause to worry. Whether the world is in recession or not, the palm oil, as an edible oil, is still very competitive.

Flights Causing Air Traffic Jam

BK2301035291 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0325 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 23 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The Gulf war is causing an air traffic jam in Southeast Asia and disrupting flight schedules.

The Malaysian Department of Civil Aviation's traffic control director, Noordin Saad said Tuesday, the congestion was due to airlines re-routing flights to avoid the Gulf area.

Planes heading for Europe from Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Jakarta used to fly through the Bay of Bengal and via the Middle East.

Now, they are all flying via Phuket and India and this is causing an air traffic jam. The situation could worsen if the war was prolonged.

Taiwan, Japan Largest Foreign Investors in 1990

BK1501090691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0909 GMT 14 Jan 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 14 (AFP)—Malaysia is to intensify its drive to attract foreign investment this year, after aggressive promotion in 1989 drew in proposals worth 18 billion U.S. dollars last year, it was announced Monday.

"We are going on an intensive promotion campaign this year," the minister of international trade and industry, Rafidah Aziz, told a news conference.

"Last year we slowed down in our promotion to follow up on 1989," she said, adding: "There are still many untapped sectors in Japan, Europe and the United States."

She said Malaysia would sell itself as an investment centre with a trainable and educated workforce able to adapt quickly to new technology, rather than as a place where cheap labour could be obtained.

Local labour costs, although still cheaper than in Hong Kong, South Korea and Taiwan, are higher than in neighbouring countries like Thailand and Indonesia.

Ms. Rafidah said the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (MIDA) had approved 1,286 projects worth 48.7 billion [Malaysian] dollars (18 billion U.S.) last year, compared with 910 projects worth 20.14 billion dollars (7.46 billion U.S.) during 1989.

Taiwan emerged as the biggest foreign investor in Malaysia last year with proposals valued at 6.34 billion dollars (2.35 billion U.S.), compared to 2.16 billion dollars (800 million U.S.) in 1989, she said.

Japan was second with 4.21 billion dollars (1.56 billion U.S.) pledged last year, compared to 2.69 billion dollars (996 million U.S.) in 1989.

Ms. Rafidah said there was rising interest from South Korea last year, with projects approved rising to 650 million dollars (241 million U.S.) from 189 million (70 million U.S.) in 1989.

Much of last year's proposals were for projects in the electronics and electrical sector, textiles and textile products, wood and wood products, chemical and chemical products, plastic products and fabricated metal products.

Ms. Rafidah said the big surge in the proposed capital investment was due primarily to two multi-million dollar petrochemical projects and an integrated steel mill.

She said she expected investment approvals for 1991 to be smaller compared to the 1990 figure which was bloated by the three capital intensive projects.

Ms. Rafidah said applications soared in December as investors rushed to meet a year-end deadline on an incentive allowing foreign investors to fully own projects which export at least 50 per cent of their products.

"There were 280 applications in December. Everybody wanted to beat the deadline," she said.

"This was a result of us going around the world telling people to come before 31st December 1990," she said.

The equity ownership incentive was introduced in October 1986 to attract investment to help turn around the Malaysian economy, which was then in a recession.

The government was widely expected to extend the incentive, although no announcement has been made yet.

Malaysia is in the midst of withdrawing incentives for industrial sectors which are saturated, such as textiles and garments, rubber gloves and lower technology ceramics.

Incentives will be given in the future to industries which are capital intensive and which introduce new technology or new processes for making the same products.

Minister Views Denunciation of ILO Convention

BK1901122391 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0750 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 19 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Human Resources Minister Lim Ah Lek has notified the International Labour Organisation (ILO) that Malaysia cannot as yet review its denunciation of Convention 105 regarding the abolition of forced labour.

In a letter to ILO Director-General Michel Hansenne, he said Malaysia appreciated the concern of the ILO which had appealed to the government to reconsider its denunciation effective 10 January.

"But, given the background that led to the decision, the government at present is unable to review the matter," Lim said in a statement Saturday.

The government, he said, made its decision to denounce the convention, which it had ratified in 1958, after careful study of all aspects involved and failure to reach a satisfactory solution regarding the application of conventions and recommendations.

Malaysia and several developing countries, including Singapore, have denounced Convention 105 over differences in interpretations of forced labour and application of Western labour standards unsuitable to Third World countries.

The ILO had accused Malaysia of enforcing laws contravening workers' rights, including using prisoners as forced labour. The government has denied the charges.

Lim said the allegations against Malaysia of forced labour had been proven unjustified by an ILO investigation mission here in November.

"Thus, the allegations that Malaysia violates human rights principles are therefore totally unfounded, baseless, and unjustified," he said.

"It is nothing more than a deliberate attempt to discredit the integrity as well as the socially and economically just and equitable labour and social policies of the government," he edded.

Lim assured the ILO that Malaysia would remain committed to and fully support the fundamental objectives and efforts of the 150- member organisation to bring about social justice and improved quality of life for workers.

He also reaffirmed that upholding the principles of freedom of association and human rights would remain the cornerstone of Malaysia's social, economic and political structure.

Singapore

Continued Gulf War Reaction Reported

Visa Requirements Imposed

BK2301005691 Hong Kong AFP in English 2307 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Singapore, Jan 22 (AFP)—Singapore Tuesday imposed "temporary" visa requirements for nationals of some Arab and African countries visiting the Republic, in light of the Gulf war.

A Ministry of Foreign Affairs statement said nationals of Iraq, Algeria, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Jordan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen will have to apply for visas from Singapore missions overseas if they wish to come to the Republic. The statement said this was a "precautionary measure to deal with security problems arising from the war in the Gulf."

It added that Singapore intelligence had been advised that terrorists have often used either forged passports from the countries concerned, or valid ones with false identifying particulars. It said that in the past, visas were not required from nationals of the countries concerned, but worldwide concern about terrorism prompted a change.

"The visa requirement is therefore a temporary measure. It will be renewed and removed once the situation in the Gulf region permits it," it said. Singapore has increased security at oil refineries and missions of countries involved in the conflict since the outbreak of the Gulf war last week.

Nationals in Area Said 'Safe'

BK2101120291 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] The charge d' affaires at the embassy in Riyadh, Mr. Musadit Ali, told SBC [Singapore Broadcasting Corporation] in a telephone interview that the Singaporeans are keeping in safe contact.

'Daily Necessities' Assured

BK2001145091 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Singaporeans have been assured that the country has a large stockpile of daily necessities such as rice, sugar, and salt. The managing director of the Economic Development Board, Mr. Tan Chin Nam, says there is no need for them to hoard these goods. Being a major refinery center, it also has enough oil reserves. Mr. Tan made this point in [words indistinct] forum on the Gulf war.

Minister Views Economic Impact

BK2101115891 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] The minister of state for trade and industry, Mr. Mah Bow Tan, says the overall impact of the Gulf war on the Singapore economy will not be felt for a while. This is due to Singapore's diversified economy and strong fundamentals. He says it is also unlikely that foreign investments will be affected in the future. Mr. Mah was speaking to reporters [words indistinct] this morning.

As to the long-term effect of the war, he said this will depend on how long the conflict will last and further political and military developments.

Mr. Mah, however, assured the people that we have sufficient stock of food and fuel and the prices will not increase despite the Gulf war.

White Paper Issued on Forming National 'Identity'

BK1601154391 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Jan 91 p 24

[Text] The government white paper on shared values proposes five core values to help Singaporeans develop a national identity and counter over-westernisation.

The values, which are said to be common to all the major ethnic groups in Singapore, are:

1. National before community and society above self:

The white paper says that putting the interests of society ahead of the individual's has been a major factor in Singapore's success.

The principle also applies when weighing the interests of sub-groups against that of the nation as a whole.

2. Family as the basic unit of society:

The family is seen as the best environment for children to grow and for the elderly to be looked after.

The white paper says that Singaporeans must not uncritically adopt the "alternative lifestyles" seen in many developed countries such as casual sexual relationships and single parenthood.

3. Regard and community support for the individual (now revised to "community support and respect for the individual"):

While Singapore must stress the value of community above self, the government recognises that the individual has rights which should be respected and not be lightly encroached upon.

The shared values seek to balance the community with the individual, not promote one to the exclusion of the other, the white paper says.

This value also points to the need for Singaporeans to show compassion for the less fortunate.

4. Consensus instead of contention (now revised to "consensus not conflict"):

This means accommodating different views of the way society should develop and forming a consensus on particular courses of action which have majority but not unanimous support in order to bring as many people on board as possible.

Resolving issues through consensus rather than contention complements the idea of putting society above self, the white paper says.

5. Racial and religious harmony:

This is seen as fundamental to the well-being of Singapore. Unless the different communities can live harmoniously together, neither the majority Chinese community nor any of the minority groups will be able to prosper as they have done, the white paper says.

Paper Views Ex-Communist Gaining Entry Permit

BK2201094091 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Jan 91 p 26

[Editorial: "Escape From Utopia"]

[Text] The rehabilitated communist is something of an oddity. Some communists get killed in action; others retreat into bourgeois life, where they lick their ideological wounds and wait to fight another day; yet others go on to win power, when many turn fascist. Having vowed to change the world, it is rare for a communist to be honest enough to accept that it has changed him. One such example of honesty is Mr Eu Chooi Yip. Mr Eu, who masterminded the communist role in the anti-colonial struggle in Singapore, has since 1967 lived in China, where he gradually grew disillusioned with his life-long ideology. The Singapore Government has agreed on compassionate grounds to allow the 72-year-old former radical to return here as a dependant of his two daughters. As with Mr Chia Thye Poh, the ex-detainee who is allowed to make day trips to Singapore from Sentosa, Mr Eu's return will allow him an opportunity to appreciate what enlightened capitalism has done for Singapore. Singaporeans, especially the first-generation leaders who broke away from the communists in the 1960s, are doubtless gratified to have their choice of political system vindicated, if only in silence, by these figures from a difficult past.

This is not to deny that the successes of capitalism, which Singaporeans take for granted today, were far from obvious then. The political economy of colonialism is a difficult one to confront, for it ties the promise of a capitalist economy to the contemporary reality of dehumanising imperialism. In correctly fighting the latter, Marxists in this part of the world, as in others, wrongly fought the former, drawing sustenance from Lenin's dictum that imperialism is the final stage of capitalism. They were proved wrong. Not only did capitalism as a global system outlive Western imperialism, the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, China and Vietnam, having chosen communism, may yet return to the capitalist fold. Admittedly, those who fought to realise the communist utopia did not know this would happen. Drawn by the heady challenge of recreating the destiny of Man, these modern Prometheans gave the best years of their lives to an impossible cause. This is a tragedy, not only for them and their families, but also for the fledgling countries which could have benefited from the intelligence, the capacity for hard work and, above all, the corruptible commitment of the best communists. But tragedy is the price history often exacts for wisdom.

There is a lesson to be drawn from the communist experience even though the ideology is on the wane. Communism attracted some of the best minds in the world not in spite, but because, of the ambitious ends it set for itself. Where the ideology went wrong was that, in a Manichean distrust of alternative points of view, it did not allow its followers to examine critically whether the means they adopted were bringing the ends closer to realisation. Sufficient attention to the means might have warned communists that the ends they were pursuing were impossible to achieve without incurring an opportunity cost so high that it wiped out the gains. Perhaps the need to win what was seen as the central political battle of all time prevented too much thought being given to process and procedure. But the failure of communism suggests that in all politics, accepting at least the possibility that one may be wrong is a pointer to what is very likely right.

The history of communism is of more than academic interest today. Not all the hardliners in the Soviet Union and China are opposed to change because it affects their vested interests. There are some who are sincerely worried by the economic excesses of the free market and the political chaos of free contention. Unless the transition to capitalism can be managed rationally, these conservatives will gain fodder for action. Communism went down because the social stability it created was an artificial one. The freedom capitalism seeks to create in society is genuine, but without stability that freedom itself can become illusory. In all societies, balance is all.

Cambodia

Soviets To 'Expand, Strengthen' Aid in 1991

BK2001085791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] On the morning of 18 January at the National Assembly Office, Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of both the National Assembly and the front's National Council, cordially received the delegation of the Soviet Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization [AAPSO] led by Comrade Tochivkov, first vice chairman of the Soviet AAPSO committee.

Speaking on the occasion, Comrade Chea Sim warmly welcomed the delegation's visit, which is a major contribution to strengthening the relations of friendship and solidarity and cooperation between the two countries. Comrade Chea Sim also told the guests about the perfidious maneuvers and tricks of the three groups of enemies who tried to topple the State of Cambodia following the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Cambodia. But during the last more than one year, the State of Cambodia not only has safeguarded social and national gains, but also thwarted the attempt to return the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Comrade Chea Sim stressed the correct stance and goodwill of the State of Cambodia's party and Government in the search for a political solution aimed at ending the war in Cambodia quickly and also profoundly thanked the Soviet party, government, and people, who always have provided moral and material assistance and support to the Cambodian people.

Replying, Comrade Tochivkov thanked Comrade Chairman Chea Sim for providing information of profound significance enabling the delegation to clearly understand the real situation in the State of Cambodia. Comrade Tochivkov also affirmed that he will strive to expand, strengthen, and further deepen the relations of solidarity and friendship and cooperation between the two associations, and that in 1991, the Soviet Union will continue to provide more unattached aid to the Cambodian people for building and strengthening the country and nation.

National Assembly Committee Issues Communique

BK2301115491 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1113 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Jan 23—The Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the State of Cambodia met here from January 22-23 in the presence of N.A. [National Assembly] Chairman Chea Sim.

According to a communique issued by the committee, the N.A. Standing Committee examined the agenda of the coming 20th session of the National Assembly. It also reviewed a number of important documents of the National Assembly, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, the People's Supreme Court and the General Prosecutor to the Supreme Court, documents which were related to the current social life, while hearing the interpretation of representatives of concerned institutions.

Chea Sim Addresses Closing of Women's Meeting

BK2101091991 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0359 GMT 20 Jan 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 20 Jan (SPK)—Chea Sim, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense National Council, honored with his presence the closing session of the Cambodian women's meeting held in Phnom Penh on 16 and 17 January.

Chairman Chea Sim expressed satisfaction at the achievements made by the Cambodian women in national defense and reconstruction. He informed the meeting participants of the process of a political solution to the Cambodian problem, especially the results of the recent meeting in Paris between the Supreme National Council (SNC) and the cochairmen of the Paris international conference on Cambodia. He brought out the perfidious maneuvers of the Khmer opposition groups aimed at overturning the State of Cambodia at the negotiating table following their failure in the military field.

"The unchangeable position of the State of Cambodia is to maintain the political and military status quo before general elections in Cambodia, oppose the recurrence of the genocidal regime, and strictly respect Cambodia's sovereignty and the Cambodian people's right to self-determination," he stressed.

"There is no question of dismantling the structures of the present civilian power, nor dissolving the armed forces before the election of a new government, for we cannot trust the Polpotists during the transition period," said Chea Sim, who went on to say that it was up to the Cambodian people to determine their own destiny.

The Cambodian leader called on the women to actively participate in the struggle against the ills of society and continue to strengthen internal unity and international solidarity, especially with Vietnam, Laos, and other friendly countries the world over. "The important thing, Chea Sim specified, is that the Cambodian women's organization has the duty to take an active part in the struggle against corruption."

PRACHEACHON Calls for More Opposition

BK1201094791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 11 Jan 91

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "The National Forces Are Highly United in the Task To Build and Strengthen Localities"]

[Text] It has been 12 years since our country was freed from the savage power and massacre of the Pol Pot clique, but the latter's maneuvers have remained the same to this day. These are getting even more vengeful, savage, and brutal. The forces of Sihanouk and Son Sann are opportunistic and allied with the Pol Pot forces for their own interests, prestige, and power. If Sihanouk and Son Sann are elected as part of a political solution, it would be an easy opportunity for Pol Pot to seize power and the historic event—which all of us were brought into by the demagogic propaganda of Sihanouk, who called on us to take to the jungles in 1970—certainly will return.

For this reason, to ensure the destiny and future of our nation and motherland, the entire party, Armed Forces, and people should hold aloft the banner of truth, that is, maintain the political and military status quo to oppose the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return. We unite around the party and share the same will and view on concrete activities and the use of the entire nation's combined forces to maintain the current stability in the military and security situation to thwart maneuvers of all unfriendly forces and enemies of all stripes.

We are constantly heightening our vigilance because we clearly realize that the enemies, at all times, have never abided by any legal agreement. When there is a negotiating forum, they intensify military activities aimed at seizing land and widening the disputed zones along the Cambodian-Thai border to serve their propaganda of duping public opinion on their fake victories. Faced with this new situation, we should continue to expand activities toward localities, districts, communes, and villages nationwide. Provinces and cities should select districts to be consolidated by paying attention to setting up and training operational groups to build our camps and bases. This should be done by ensuring quality and competence appropriate to the conditions of our districts, communes, and villages, which are still weak. The party and state authorities in districts, communes, and villages should continue to expand their experiences to strengthen working procedures and disciplines to serve the people and increase leadership efficiency. This is aimed at ensuring our four basic strong points.

We pledge to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity and the people's rights and interests in their localities by implementing well the task to build the people's Armed Forces to defend the people. Mass agitation work should be closely linked to the diplomatic struggle. Along with ideological work, the economic task and the work to fight corruption, negativism, and aloofness remain major tasks. This should be (?vigorously implemented) in accordance with the spirit of the party Central Committee's 11th session to use combined forces for the cause of our nation and motherland to end the war and the people's suffering in accordance with the ideals of the party and to preserve our new regime's strength.

Radio on Fighting 'More Vigorously' in Dry Season

BK1801064791 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 17 Jan 91

[Station editorial: "The War of the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors and Race Exterminators Cannot Be Resolved Yet; It is Necessary To Continue To Hold Aloft the Banner of Great National Union and Increase Forces To Attack the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors and Their Puppets and Lackeys and Get Them To Implement the Five-Chapter Document of the Five Permanent Members"]

[Text] The Hanoi Vietnamese enemy has been waging a war of aggression, territorial expansion, and race extermination against Cambodia for more than 12 years. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors have shown no signs that that they want to end their war of aggression politically, despite their problems on the battlefield of aggression in Cambodia and in Vietnam, their isolation, and deprivation of Soviet aid. Vietnam procrastinates in its war of aggression to exterminate the Cambodian race and continues to implement the Vietnamization policy in Cambodia.

According to statistics gathered by Cambodian national resistance forces and the Cambodian people throughout the country, it is clear that the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors currently have 70,000 soldiers fighting against the Cambodian national resistance forces and the Cambodian people. There are also more than 50 to 60,000 Vietnamese administrative staff; 100,000 Vietnamese nationals and policemen; and over a million Vietnamese settlers.

The Vietnamese enemy aggressors have a large number of aggressor forces which carry on the war of aggression in Cambodia, occupy Cambodia, annex Cambodian territory, and exterminate the Cambodian race. This is why they oppose the document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. The Vietnamese enemy aggressors are afraid that the United Nations and UN peacekeeping force will drag them out of Cambodia. The Vietnamese enemy opposes the dissolution of the puppet regime and troops because Vietnam is hiding its aggressor troops among the puppet regime and Army so that Vetnam can continue to occupy Cambodia in accordance with its Indochinese federation. This are the dirty goals of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors.

The Vietnamese enemy aggressors will not easily abandon these goals in an attempt to annex Cambodian territory and massacre the Cambodian race. If they cannot resist world pressure, they will divert the people's attention to solving the issue shabbily, so that they can continue to hide their aggressor forces in Cambodia and create a (?confused) situation there to enable them to occupy the country forever.

The Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces are clearly aware of the dirty goals and perfidious maneuvers of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors. The Cambodian people in and outside the country clearly realize the vital need to hold aloft the great national union banner under which there is no white, black, red, or blue, with no squabbling, and unite to continue fighting more vigorously in the 13th dry season against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators and the puppets and traitors to the nation in order to win further and greater victories.

As long as all of us cooperate within the great national union, unite with peace- and independence-loving forces the world over, and stand firmly by the framework document of the five permanent members and the 26 November 1990 draft agreement, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their puppets and lackeys will certainly not be able to avoid these documents; the UN peacekeeping force will certainly come to control and ensure the withdrawal of all Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia. Cambodia will certainly recover peace and independence.

Indonesia

U.S. Embassy, Bank's Bomb Scares 'False Alarms'

BK2301081291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0801 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 23 (AFP)—The U.S. Embassy and a branch of the U.S. bank Citibank received bomb threats here Wednesday which turned out to be false alarms, officials and witnesses said.

The embassy, which Tuesday was the target of an anti-U.S. demonstration over Washington's role in the Gulf war, was completely closed for 45 minutes as police and embassy guards combed the area for explosives, witnesses said.

An anonymous caller had earlier said a bomb had been placed in the embassy, according to U.S. diplomats. "It is the first real threat to the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta," one of them said.

There was tension when a guard found a suspicious object in a bush on the front lawn which turned out to be a deflated basketball, the witnesses said.

Other than that the search at the embassy, located about 500 meters (yards) from the vice presidential palace in central Jakarta, revealed no explosives.

A highrise building housing a Citibank branch was evacuated after the bank received an anonymous call saying a bomb had been placed in the building, bank officials said. Around 1,000 people working in the building waited outside while security members searched the premises. Nothing was found.

Western diplomats have said several embassies in Jakarta, notably the U.S., British and French, three of the countries whose forces are actively engaged in air operations against Iraq, have been receiving anonymous threats in the past few days, especially since the outbreak of the Gulf war last week.

The military has said it has initiated extra security measures in the past week mainly to protect the lives of foreigners in the country.

Police Friday detonated explosives found in the residential compound of U.S. Ambassador John C. Monjo.

Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim nation, has supported U.N. resolutions against Iraq's occupation of Kuwait but has strongly deplored the use of force against Baghdad.

Dailies Comment on Situation in Persian Gulf

BK1901112791 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0600 GMT 19 Jan 91

[From the press review]

[Text] KOMPAS says that it is irrefutable that U.S. weapons are dominant in Operation "Desert Storm" to liberate Kuwait although air raids conducted by the multinational forces are supported by British, Saudi Arabian, and French aircraft and weapons. Seen from the U.S. point of view, the current Gulf war is intended to test its determination and strength during the post-cold war era. The other objective may be to anticipate the emergence of a wave of inevitable and irresistable change not only in the Middle East but also the world over. In this case, KOMPAS says that this is understandable because what is at stake in this war is the political fate of not only Saddam Husayn but President George Bush as well.

Meanwhile, BERITA YUDHA says that Iraqi missile attacks on Haifa and Tel Aviv in Israel yesterday have complicated the situation for countries supporting the UN resolutions which conducted raids on Iraq one day earlier. Many countries, particularly Western countries, have made appeals to the Israeli Government not to retaliate against the Iraqi attacks. However, if Israel does retaliate, the situation will become further complicated and a solution will become more difficult as there have been no signs of an end to the war.

SUARA KARYA believes that if Iraq again conducts missile attacks on Israel and the latter's allies fail to protect the country hostile to the Arab countries, the United States will find it difficult to prevent Israel from getting involved in the war. Should this happen, the spectre of the Gulf war, the daily says, will change. Perhaps that is why Saddam Husayn has linked the settlement of the Kuwait case with the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

ANGKATAN BERSENJATA believes that Iraq appears to have heavily relied on its Army equipped with tanks as it did during the war against Iran. President Saddam Husayn apparently believes that the character of the 1991 war will be the same as that of the war against Iran. According to this daily, Iraq's war against the U.S.-led multinational forces is very much differrent from its war against Iran because the multinational forces emphasize air superiority.

In the meantime, NERACA, BERITA BUANA, and BISNIS INDONESIA ask UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar to immediately end the Gulf war because the Iraqi people in particular and the Middle East people in general will be destroyed if the war is prolonged.

Laos

Immigration Denies Entry to 7 Thai Muslims

BK2301031591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Nong Khai—Seven Thai Muslims were yesterday denied entry to Laos by Laotian immigration officials amid fears of terrorist activites in Vientiane, provincial immigration police deputy chief Surin Sailahan said.

Pol Capt [Police Captain] Surin said the seven were Seng Dumidae, 52, I Sama-ae Kaso, 24, Makata Kanae, 32, Ali Haji Taye, 38, Hammad Kriyatayanon, 30, Mohamad Maning, 44, and Abdul Kalim Chekpatha, 42.

The seven Muslims, from Pattani and Yala provinces in the South, said when they asked Thai authorities for border passes yesterday that they wanted to visit their relatives in Vientiane. They were issued the passes and took a boat across the Mekhong River.

However, at Tha Dua immigration office on the Laotian side of the river they were prohibited from entering the country, Pol Capt Surin said. He said one of the seven Muslims, Seng Dumidae, a native of Tambon La-ae of Yala's Yaha District, went from Nong Khai to Laos on Saturday and returned to Nong Khai the following day.

On Sunday, the name card of a member of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation was stuck to many diplomats' cars in Vientiane, causing fears of terrorism among foreign envoys in the Laotian capital, Pol Capt Surin quoted the wife of an Australian diplomat as saying.

Pol Capt Surin said the incident might not be related to Seng's crossing to Vientiane on Saturday. But when Seng and the six other Muslims sought to enter Laos yesterday, they were refused immediately, he said.

Kaysone Congratulates New Soviet Prime Minister

BK2201102291 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 22 (KPL)—Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [PDR], on January 16 sent a telegram of congratulations to Mr. Valentin Pavlov, prime minister of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The Lao chairman, on behalf of the government and people of Laos, extended congratulations to the new Soviet prime minister on his appointment to the post.

Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan further expressed satisfaction to see the friendly relations and comprehensive cooperation between the Lao PDR and the USSR developed. He was also convinced of the constant development of the relations and cooperation in the interest of the people of the two nations and for peace.

Phoun Sipaseut Greets USSR's Bessmertnykh

BK1801142691 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Jan 91

[Text] On 16 January, Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], sent a message of greetings to Comrade Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Bessmertnykh, foreign affairs minister of the USSR, Moscow. The message reads as follows:

I would like to extend sincere greetings to you, comrade, on the occasion of your appointment as new foreign affairs minister of the USSR. I see that the appointment has reflected the confidence in you to lead the implementation of the gentle foreign policy of the Soviet Union toward the world.

I, together with associates, hereby assure you, comrade, that we will do everything possible to strengthen the friendly relations and all-round cooperation between the LPDR and the USSR for the benefits of the two peoples of Laos and the Soviet Union and in the interests of world peace.

I wish you, comrade, good health and success in performing your honorable and noble tasks.

Assembly Chairman Receives New Soviet Ambassador

BK1901142191 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 19 (KPL)—The president of the People's Supreme Assembly Mr. Nouhak Phoumsavan received here yesterday the new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR) to Laos Mr. Georgiy Alekseyevich Rudov.

The discussion proceeded in a cordial atmosphere.

The new Soviet ambassador on Dec. 26, 1990 presented his credentials to the Lao acting president Phoumi Vongvichit.

Philippines

Israeli Envoy Welcomes Iraqi Diplomat's Explusion

HK2301120591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Ambassador (Rihad Behiri), Israeli representative to the Philippines, thanked the government for its continuous support for the welfare of Israel amid the Gulf war. The ambassador welcomed the government's decision to expel Iraqi Consul General Muwafak al-'Ani, but stressed that this was an independent decision by the Philippine Government. When asked whether MOSSAD, Israel's intelligence agency, is taking measures to identify the Palestinian or Iraqi terrorists operating in the Philippines, (Behiri) gave no clear response. [Passage indistinct]

Manila Not To Break Relations

HK2301034391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 23 Jan 91 pp 1, 15

[Text] The Philippine government will not alter its diplomatic relations with Iraq even after declaring Iraqi consul general Mufawak Hassim Al-Ani "persona non grata" and ordering his expulsion from the Philippines by Thursday noon for his alleged involvement in an aborted terroristic activity here, President Aquino said yesterday.

At a press conference, the Chief Executive said, "Let me make this very clear. We continue to have diplomatic relations with the Iraqi government. He has been declared persona non grata. So this is directed at his person, not at his government or his country."

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus defended the decision of the government amid concerns that the government's action may endanger the lives of some 50 Filipino workers in Iraq and more than 1,000 others in Iraqi-occupied Kuwait.

"While we wish to protect them there, we also have to protect our people here. Our government canot tolerate Iraqis or anyone for that matter bringing their quarrels to our soil," he said.

Manglapus said it is fortunate that Saturday's explosion which resulted in the death of Ahmad J. Ahmed, an Iraqi, and serious injuries to Abdul Hisham, another Iraqi national, a few meters from the U.S. Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center on Sen. Gil J. Puyat (formerly Buendia) Ave., Makati, did not involve the loss of Filipino life or damage to property.

In a related development, incoming Iranian Ambassador to the Philippines Abdulazim Hashemi Nik assured that the Iranian nationals in the Philippines will not take part in any terroristic activity.

"They are not involved and they are not going to be involved because our government is in neutral position," he said, explaining that his country had tried to stop the Middle East war in an effort to avert a "big calamity."

He said the Iranian government condemns the war, adding that it has asked Iraq to leave Kuwait but, at the same time, it opposes the presence of foreign troops in the region because "we believe that nations should do their affairs by thsmselves."

Interviewed after paying a courtesy call on President Aquino, the Iranian ambassador also assured a continuous supply of oil from Iran to the Philippines, being a "traditional customer of oil."

"We assure you we continue (to supply oil) unless there is an obstacle which is out of our hands. We, as a friend to the Republic of the Philippines, are continuously supplying oil to your country," he added.

Manglapus said he was not wuling out the possibility that people other than Al-Ani are involved in Gulf war-related terrorism but he said this is a matter that is left to the intelligence agencies.

Asked if the Iraqi embassy or any other official was involved in the plan to sow terrorism in the country, Manglapus said that there was no evidence.

To avert the entry of foreign terrorist groups, Manglapus said that the Department of Foreign Affairs is exercising caution in accepting diplomatic personnel coming here while it is the job of the Commission of Immigration and Deportation (CID) to look after non-diplomats.

Manglapus confirmed the President's statements that the declaration of a diplomat as a "persona non grata" is directed not at the government but at the person.

"It does not disturb the continuity of our relations with that country...There have been many cases in the past where a country declared (a diplomat) persona non grata and continued relations with the same country and in fact improved relations because of the departure of the undesirable member," he said.

More Iraqis Under Surveillance

HK2301033991 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 23 Jan 91 p 15

[By A. Ilagan]

[Text] Four more Iraqi nationals have been placed under surveillance after they were implicated by police authorities in the bombing near the Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center of the United States Information Service (USIS) in Makati.

Chief Superintendent Marino Filart, Metropolitan Police Force (MPF) director, said that aside from two Iraqi nationals who were detained by the police for the bomb explosion on Sen. Gil Puyat (formerly Buendia) Ave., a few meters away from the U.S. government library, four more Iraqi nationals might be involved in the incident.

One of the two Iraqi nationals held by the police, Abdul Saed, who was wounded in the explosion and is now undergoing treatment at the MPF General Hospital in Camp Panopio, Quezon City, was described as "uncooperative" during interrogation.

Police, Troops Patrol Diplomatic Facilities

HK2301122991 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Excerpts] Policemen and soldiers were seen deployed in strategic places in Makati, including Ayala-Buendia intersection and Pasay Road. The troops were wearing camouflage uniforms and in full battle gear. They were also using V-150s and armored personnel carriers. They were guarding the gates of exclusive subdivisions around Makati town. This move is in response to threats from terrorists, whose numbers have reportedly increased since Saturday's bombing of the Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center that resulted in the killing of an Iraqi national and the wounding of another. [sentence as heard]

Meanwhile, the police and military deployed in Makati said they are there to respond immediately to any eventuality, such as the possible recurrence of bombings in Metro Manila, particularly at embassies. Aside from the Thomas Jefferson Cultural Center at the Buendia extension, several military and police personnel are also guarding the Japanese Embassy, and the Israeli Embassy in Ayala Avenue. [passage omitted]

In related news, here is an interview with Makati Police Station Commander Colonel Remy Macaspac on the unusual deployment of police personnel in Makati:

[Begin recording] [Macaspac] These are only additional measures for any plans by those who want to sow terror in our country.

[Anchorman] It was observed that most of the areas patrolled are those close to the offices and residences of the diplomatic community.

[Macaspac] That's true. We are giving them protection to enable our diplomats to go on with their day-to-day tasks relative to their international undertakings.

[Anchorman] Colonel, is this troop deployment related to the bombing attempt on Saturday?

[Macaspac] That's one reason for our precautionary measures—to prevent similar incidents from occurring and to be prepared for any eventuality.

[Anchorman] Are these men members of the Philippine National Police [PNP]? Are there any members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines?

[Macaspac] They are all from the PNP, as per the directive by our PNP director general.

[Anchorman] And this was coordinated with you?

[Macaspac] Yes. All PNP branches are fully aware of this action.

[Anchorman] Colonel, would you know if this move is only in Makati, or are there other similar moves in other parts of Metro Manila?

[Macaspac] Actually, there are even more vigorous preparations in the Southern Police District because our multinationals, to whom we give protection, are there. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Airports Placed on 'Highest' Alert

HK2301121391 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] All international and domestic airports in the country has been placed on the highest level of alert, no.

11, 10 [as heard]. This was announced today by Brigadier General Rogelio Estacio, Philippine Air Force Security Command chief, following last Saturday's incident in Makati in which an Iraqi national was killed. Josette Olivera reports:

[Begin Olivera recording] Estacio said more stringent measures are now being implemented at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and other international airports and at domestic airports to ensure that no terrorists can enter the country. Estacio identified the names and pictures of Japanese Red Army members and Palestinians who are supportive of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. According to Estacio, additional security has been requested by airlines like Cathay Pacific, Northwest and others. [end recording]

97-Day Oil Supply, Sufficient Food Remain

HK2201060191 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] The oil supply will last for 97 days more while the food supply is sufficient for the people's daily needs. President Corazon Aquino made this statement while assuring that there will be no shortage in spite of the Middle East conflict. She also told the people that the evacuation of Filipino workers in the Gulf is going on well and the government is doing its best to ensure the safety of Filipino nationals there. The president appealed to the nation to pray so that peace reigns in the Middle East and in our country.

Government Said Firm on U.S. Bases Pullout

HK2301034191 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 23 Jan 91 p 8

[Text] Despite the new threat to global peace posed by the Middle East war, the Philippines will stand pat on its position to ask the United States to withdraw its military facilities in the Philippines in five years, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said yesterday in Malacanang.

"Our position is not going to be affected by the situation in the Persian Gulf," regardless of the turn of events in the Middle East, Manglapus said.

But President Aquino did not express a similarly strong commitment to pursue the five-year terminal phaseout of the U.S. military facilities. When asked, she replied, "We will always operate on the principle that whatever will serve the national interest is what we will continue to defend, and also to present to the American panel."

President Aquino said that the President's Committee on the Bases and the Philippine panel are studying a wide range of options, including a proposal of some senators to abrogate the country's mutual defense treaty with the U.S. in view of fears that the country may be drawn to a war with Iraq.

"We are currently in the process of discussing the bases issue and so all of these matters are being seriously, and in fact, have been studied and not only by the panel but especially the technical staff," she said in a press conference.

Mrs. Aquino confirmed that the final round of talks on the fate of the U.S. military facilities in the country have been postponed to February in view of the Gulf war, upon the recommendation of Richard Armitage, who heads the U.S. panel on the bases talks.

She said that while the U.S. has built its forces in the war against Iraq, it has not used its military facilities in the Philippines to support Operation Desert Storm.

U.S. authorities "have not asked me for (the bases' support for Operation Desert Storm). They are supposed to consult with us in case they will be needing the facilities, but they have not done so," she said.

She noted that the Philippines has used the presence of U.S. military facilities as a leverage to seek equipment to build the country's external defense capability and augment limited resources of the Philippine Air Force and the Philippine Navy.

New Munitions Plant Boosts Military Firepower

HK2301042591 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 23 Jan 91 pp 1, 15

[By Aris R. Ilagan]

[Text] The firepower of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) was boosted yesterday with the inauguration of a munition plant which is capable of manufacturing a wide variety of armaments and ammunition.

Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos led other officials at rites opening the "integrated defense manufacturing plant" of Floro International Corp. located in Tanay, Rizal.

"The operation of the plant is another important step in the continuing efforts to further enhance the self-reliance defense posture program of the defense department and the AFP," Ramos said.

"While we continue our alliance with the United States under the Mutual Defense Treaty, we must face the reality of the eventual phaseout of the U.S. military facilities in the country," he added.

Ramos stressed that the Filipinos should not be merely contented with technology transfer but they should also focus attention to the development of indigenouse technology.

The Floro Integrated Defense Manufacturing Corp. [FIDMC] will produce for local and foreign consumption military parts for light artillery ammunition, rockets, mortar shells, grenade launchers, and assault rifles.

For its initial operations, the FIDMC has exported smoke and tear gas grenades to Singapore.

Communist Rebels Attack Military Outposts

HK2101035191 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 Jan 91 pp 1, 23

[By Isidoro S. Chammag]

[Text] Camp Dangwa, Benguet—New People's Army (NPA) rebels attacked two military detachments simultaneously in Conner, Kalinga-Apayao yesterday, killing eight government troopers.

Five of the rebels were also killed during the clash while five others were wounded.

Reports from the Kalinga-Apayao PNP [Philippine National Police] command disclosed that the NPAs simultaneously attacked the detachments in barangays Karikitan and Kalafug, both in Conner.

Major Mel Pia, information officer of the Cordillera Regional Command (Crecom), identified the slain government troopers as C2C [Constable 2d Class] Jose Biyong and Julian Connag, Joseph Latawan, Donato Awingan, Doroteo Guimpalon, Nicanor Gawing, Agustin Gawing and a certain Juanito, all members of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Units (CAFGU).

Seriously wounded were C2C Joseph Cornel, C2C Manuel Tuliao, C2C Romualdo Mangliwon, and Tonly Latawan and David Godayon, both CAFGU members.

Five members of the attacking NPA were killed when reinforcements led by Lt. Rene Sinocruz and Lt. Constancio Item arrived an engaged them in an hour-long gun battle, forcing them to withdraw.

Brig. Gen. Juanito Aquias, CRECOM commanding general, said that the attack, the first by the Communist rebels this year, would be an effort to avenge their defeat at the Marag Valley last year.

Aquias disclosed that 100 soldiers of CRECOM were discharged from the service after they were found guilty of misconduct and other violations like absence without leave (AWOL) and indiscriminate firing of rifles.

Aquias said the dismissal of the soldiers was part of the effort to weed out the "bad eggs" from the police service and to install discipline among the law enforcers.

Quezon Communists Criticized Over Bridge Blast

HK2101035391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 Jan 91 p 23

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Lopez, Quezon—The New People's Army (NPA) was the target of criticism after they blasted the 30-meter cement bridge in barangay Tan-Ag here the other day, closing traffic to all vehicles in the five municipalities in the Bondoc Peninsula.

Only last Tuesday, Sen. Wigberto Tanada was here for a dialogue for peace with Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos and top military officials, including AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon. Tanada was invited by Ramos, Gov. Eddie Rodriguez and Mayor Joel Arago.

Tanada appealed during that meeting to the local Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and its military arm, the NPA, and its political arm, the National Democratic Front (CPP-NPA-NDF), to suspend military operation to encourage all groups to contribute to the development of Southern Tagalog region, particularly Quezon.

After learning of the blasting of Tan-Ag bridge, Tanada renewed his appeal to the CPP-NPA-NDF to stop their terroristic activities since the Filipino people, especially the poor, would suffer from the consequences of their activities.

Provincial engineer Avelardo Radoban informed Gov. Rodriguez that with the closure of the bridge, commerce, agriculture and industry in the Bondoc peninsula would be adversely affected.

Radoban said that repair of the Lopez-Buenavista-San Francisco road started last week but the work will be delayed because of the damaged road.

Brig. Gen. Clemente Mariano, 203rd Infantry Brigade chief, told Maj. Gen. Lisandro Abadia, army chief, that he had dispatched soldiers from the 49th Infantry Battalion to track down the NPA terrorists.

Gen. Mariano ordered a continuous patrol in the 38-kilometer Lopez-Catanauan road to prevent the rebels from destroying three other bridges there.

Meanwhile, an NPA rebel was killed when government troopers repulsed the rebels' attack of a military detachment in Tagkawayan, Quezon.

A Militiaman was also seriously wounded during the clash.

Thailand

Government Ready To Airlift Workers If Asked

BK2301033391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Jan 91 p A3

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said the government was ready to send aircraft to evacuate Thai workers from the war-ravaged Middle East any time if requested.

Chatchai said flights serviced either by Thai Airways International (THAI) or the air force stood ready to fly to the region to carry them home.

This contradicted a statement yesterday by air force commander ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kaset Rotchananin, who said that the air force would have to use THAI jets for evacuation as military aircraft would not be able to enter airspace in the Middle East.

Chatchai said so far he had not received any such requests and added that most of the Thai workers still in the Middle East had reportedly volunteered to stay and were not in the danger zones.

Airports in some of the Persian Gulf cities, including Riyadh, Dharan, Dubai and Qatar were reportedly closed and it was not certain whether flights would be allowed to land even for special purposes.

The premier also denied a claim made by Surin Phitsuwan, an opposition MP [member of parliament] from the Democrat Party, that about 50 Thai students were in Iraq and had been neglected by the Thai embassy.

The Thai Embassy in Baghdad and the Labour Department have said that there were only seven Thais left in Iraq. Three of them are working at the residences of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and his brother and reportedly wanted to stay. Another is the driver at the Thai embassy.

Government Spokesman Pridiyathon Thewakun said the Foreign and Interior ministries' report to the Cabinet yesterday described the scope of the Gulf War as being generally limited to Iraq and Kuwait and stated that the overall effect on Thailand had been limited so far because it had not affected the oil supply to the country.

The spokesman said the report anticipated that the current trend of the conflict would continue but suggested that the government continue to closely monitor the situation.

According to the latest reports, no Thais have been killed or injured because of the war so far.

Thapakon Chomsewi, chief of the Interior Ministry's committee on coordinating the evacuation of Thai workers in the Middle East, reported that the reception camp in Hofuf, Saudi Arabia, now was housing 596 Thai workers and was becoming quite crowded as more Thai workers were moving in.

Tapakon said currently there were 134 Thai workers the Riyadh camp, 269 in Buraida, north of Riyadh, and 166 in Jeddah.

Labour officials working in Saudi Arabia also reported that they would not advise Thai workers to seek shelter in Riyadh because Iraqi missiles had now hit the Saudi capital and it was no longer considered safe.

In Israel, there were about 200 Thai workers staying in Eeilat camp in the southeast of the country. Most of them are reported to want to monitor the situation in the capital of Tel Aviv before deciding whether to return to work.

He said 25 Thai workers from the South Korean Samsung Company in Jordan were reportedly on the way to Rome and was expected to arrive in Bangkok today.

In Jordan, 84 Thai workers had expressed their desire to return home.

Workers Return; Repatriation Bodies Set

BK2301121191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST Supplement in English 23 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Forty-seven Thai workers, some of whom left Baghdad nine days ago, arrived in Bangkok this morning.

Twenty-two of them arrived at Don Muang airport at 3 a.m. on a Malaysian Airlines plane.

They were employees of a Korean company.

Later, 25 more workers—the second group to return since the Gulf war broke out—arrived in Bangkok on a THAI flight from Rome.

The group managed to get out of Baghdad on January 14, one day before the UN deadline expired, and entered Amman.

They continued via al-'Aqabah to Cairo, where they were stranded for three days.

With no direct flights from Egypt to Bangkok, the workers flew to Rome, where they stayed overnight before catching a connecting plane home.

Samsung, the workers' Korean employer, said it would help send them to their provincial homes.

Sakon Kanmongkon siad he and others worked at a construction site for expressways and bridges, about 120 kilometres from Baghdad.

He said the company helped them get into Jordan and he wished to continue his job after the war had ended.

The Interior Ministry has announced the establishment of two committees to handle resettlement of Thai workers returning from the Middle East.

Permanent secretary Anan Anantakul said the committees—one chaired by him and the other by a deputy labour department director- general—would help provide transport, temporary accommodation and job placement services for the returning workers.

Prime Minister Chatchai Chnunhawan said there had been no request for planes to be dispatched for evacuation of Thai workers from the Gulf.

The Government has at its disposal Royal Thai Air Force and Thai International Airways planes which it can promptly dispatch if asked, he said.

Gen Chatchai said the majority of Thai workers wanted to remain working in the Middle East and they were in safe areas. He said only a few wanted to get out.

Sawat Denies Iraqis, Jordanian Arrested

BK2301025191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Jan 91 p A3

[Text] Authorities know the identities of some people suspected of having connections with terrorist groups in the Middle East and are tracking them down, Army Commander in Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun said yesterday.

Suchinda said, however, that the military is not directly responsible for monitoring the suspects' activities and the Special Branch Division police will be cooperating with the United States in the intelligence work.

He added that soldiers will continue guarding embassies and other important places in Bangkok until police intelligence completely accounts for all the suspects.

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE yesterday quoted unidentified Western intelligence experts as saying that foreign terrorists may have been sighted in Bangkok.

The experts said there was "very good evidence" of the presence here of terrorists, as hundreds of heavily armed troops remain inside and around the U.S. and other embassy compounds.

In a related development yesterday, newly-appointed Police Director General Pol Gen [Police General] Sawat Amonwiwat denied a press report that police have taken in two Iraqis and one Jordanian for questioning on suspicion of their connection with terrorist movement.

"I haven't received any report about that," he said.

Sawat yesterday inspected police security operations at the places where police and the military have been providing maximum protection, including the Australian, Israeli and U.S. embassies and the residence of the Saudi ambassador to Thailand.

The police chief said policemen from Bangkok-area stations who are guarding foreign embassies and other installations may be replaced by personnel from border patrol police units in the near future so that the policemen wil not become too strained to handle security operations efficiently.

The British Embassy yesterday issued an advisory to the British community in Thailand confirming that there is a continuing credible threat of terrorist activity against Britons and other Westerners in Bangkok.

The embassy continues to advise members of the British community to carry on daily activities while bearing in mind the existence of this threat and to avoid, when possible, large gatherings of Westerners.

As tight security continued for the fourth day after a U.S. warning on possible terrorist attacks in Bangkok, the American International Assurance Co Ltd in Silom area received a bomb threat which turned out to be a hoax.

Police said a company official received a phone call from an unidentified person who claimed that a bomb was planted on the seventh floor of the firm's building off Dejo Road. After a thorough search, police found no bomb in the building.

A string of bomb hoaxes had earlier been reported at two oil refineries and three foreign banks on Monday.

U.S.-based Northwest Airlines has closed its office in Chan Itsara Building on Rama IV Road following the U.S. warning on terrorist attacks, but the offices of other foreign airlines there remained open yesterday.

Four international schools, three in Bangkok and one in Chiang Mai, have also been closed recently.

—Deputy Public Health Minister Den Tomina denied reports that Muslims in the South had recently demonstrated support for Iraqi president Saddam Husayn during a religious ceremony, saying they just prayed for peace in the Gulf.

The Solidarity MP explained that Muslims normally do Lamart (Islamic prayer) five times a day and pray in groups every Friday afternoon.

"This is the religious practice of Muslims all over the world, not only those in the four southern provinces," he added.

His comments came amid fears that Muslim separatists might launch terroist acts in Thailand as Saddam has called on the Islamic world to launch a jihad (holy war) against the United States and its allies at war with Iraq by terrorizing allied missions and interests worldwide.

ASEAN Envoys Support Call for Gulf Cooperation

BK2301040991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Jan 91 p A4

[Text] ASEAN envoys yesterday voiced their support to Thailand's call for closer cooperation among members to the regional grouping to cope effectively with the negative impact from the Gulf War.

Bangkok-based ASEAN diplomats were called to discuss the crisis at the Foreign Ministry by Minister Athit Urairat who briefed them on his talks with his Malaysian counterpart Abu Hassan Omar on Monday.

Both ministers agreed that ASEAN member states should work more closely to ensure the safety and welfare of their people in the war-affected zones and to find ways and means to cope with the repercussions of the crisis on ASEAN economies.

Wichian Chensawatdichai, the ministry's deputy spokesman told reporters that the ASEAN envoys agreed to the need for closer cooperation within the grouping.

They also supported the joint statement delivered by both ministers on Monday calling for "restraint to be excercised by all sides" in the hostilities in the Gulf in order to prevent it from spreading.

Athit yesterday told the ASEAN diplomats that the ministry had not proposed hosting a United Nations conference on the Middle East nor sought an ASEAN's ministerial meeting to discuss the grouping's new political stand on the Gulf crisis.

Athit was responding to reports in some local newspapers yesterday that he had proposed to the members of the United Nations Security Council that it organize a conference on the Middle East in Bangkok. The Thai-language newspaper MATICHON's edition yesterday also reported that Abu Hassan rejected Athit's request to convene the ASEAN ministerial meeting on the Gulf crisis.

Wichian categorically denied the reports, saying that Thailand agreed in principle that the UN conference should be organized to tackle the root of the conflict in the Middle East including the Israeli-Palestinain issue with no linkage to the on-going fighting in the Gulf.

Abu Hassan told the Thai press yesterday that Malaysia as the chairman of ASEAN standing committee would not hesitate to hold an ASEAN meeting on the Gulf crisis if there was a need but he expected the issue to be officially brought up first at the meeting of ASEAN senior political and economic officials scheduled for February.

Spokesman Clarifies 'Erroneous' Press Reports

BK2301113691 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Wichian Chensawatchai, deputy director of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, has clarified to newsmen two erroneous 22 January press reports concerning Foreign Ministry actions.

Regarding the first report, which said the United Nations has opposed the proposal of Foreign Minister Athit Urairat for an international conference to resolve the Middle East dispute, Wichian explained that the foreign minister has never proposed to host such a meeting. The proposal was initiated by the United Nations through several UN Security Council resolutions. The foreign minister already expressed his support for such resolutions during his meetings with envoys of the UN Security Council permanent member countries, in which he suggested that the problem should be discussed in a special meeting of the United Nations after the crisis ended so that other conflicts could also be discussed in order to prevent subsequent problems. However, no countries have suggested a date for such a meeting. Wichian said the foreign minister's suggestion does not constitute an attempt to link the Middle East problem with other problems, because he continues to adhere to the UN Security Council Resolution 678, which calls for drastic measures to solve the problem while not ignoring other measures.

Regarding the second report, which said the Malaysian foreign minister opposed the Thai foreign minister's suggestion for an ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting on the Middle East conflict, Wichian explained that the Thai foreign minister did not propose such a meeting, because ASEAN already has a clear stand on the issue. The two foreign ministers merely discussed the possibility of such a meeting if the situation changed. The Malaysian foreign minister, as the chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, agreed that such a meeting can be convened immediately and that the meeting can also discuss other forms of cooperation among ASEAN countries.

2 More Medical Teams To Leave for Saudi Arabia

BK2301022691 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Public Health Minister Piyanat Watcharaphon disclosed at Government House yesterday afternoon that two teams of Public Health ministry personnel, bringing the total to 28 doctors and officials, will leave for Saudi Arabia around 26 January.

The dispatches of the medical personnel comply with the Thai- Saudi Arabian cooperation and assistance program. These personnel will provide medical treatment to Saudis affected by the Persian Gulf war. They will replace the first Thai medical team, which has been assigned to work for 15 days.

The minister said the Public Health Ministry officials have also prepared gas masks to be distributed to Thai workers in the Middle East.

However, the minister said, the countries involved in the war should think of humanity and not use banned weapons or those that have the capacity to inflict great disaster.

War Offers Opportunity To Boost Rice Exports

BK2301042791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Jan 91 p 15

[Text] The ongoing Gulf war has offered Thailand a chance to boost rice exports as a result of a sharp rise in demand for high-grade rice.

Middle East countries, particularly the United Arab Emirates and Iran, have approached Thailand with a view to buying rice for reserves, a Rice Exporters' Association source said.

The source said UAE [United Arab Emirates] rice importers had begun negotiations with several Thai rice exporters to buy high-grade rice to suply to neighbouring countries, particularly Saudi Arabia, which have large numbers of allied forces.

The source said there also had been inquiries from Dubai importers wanting to buy several thousand tons of high-grade rice.

Rice exporters quoted prices for 100 percent white rice grade B and 5 percent white rice at $315 to $320 a ton FOB for prompt shipments. Dubai importers have agreed to buy.

Iranian cooperatives were also interested and had negotiated with major rice exporters to buy a large amount of high-grade rice.

It was believed the rice would be used for Iran's own consumption, but it was possible some could also be smuggled into Iraq.

"The local prices of rice in the Middle East countries are sharply increasing, due to a huge demand by Arab people and allied forces, so it will benefit Thai rice exports," the source said.

However, Thai rice exporters should take care regarding payments and ensure Middle East buyers confirmed their letters of credit from international banks, the source warned.

The source said last year three Middle East countries imported more than 750,000 tons of high-grade rice from Thailand or 30 percent of total rice exports, including 381,720 tons to Iran, 258,389 tons to UAE and 113,768 tons to Iraq.

The source said a strong demand for high-grade rice by Middle East countries had caused a jump in domestic rice prices. This week the price of 100 percent white rice grade B increased from 445 baht per picul to 460 baht yesterday.

Earlier, the domestic price of high-grade rice increased when the Government announced a policy to fully support paddy prices through a mortgage scheme.

The success of rice sales to Malaysia was another factor pushing up domestic prices.

In a related development, it was liekly the foreign Trade Department would buy 36,800 tons of 100 percent white rice from exporters under the intervention scheme, although the department had to improve some buying conditions to meet exporters' demand.

Meanwhile, 20 rice exporters agreed to change 85,858 tons of 25 percent white rice, which was sold to the department, for 75,000 tons of 15 percent white rice for unloading to Soviet Russia under a government-to-government deal.

Government Orders Energy Conservation Measures

BK1901015491 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Jan 91 p 3

[Text] Measures to conserve energy would be imposed nation-wide, Interior Permanent Secretary Anan Anantakun said. The Metropolitan Electricity Authority and the Provincial Electricity Authority would seek the public's cooperation in conserving electricity so that energy supplies could last longer, he said.

Government Spokesman M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun said yesterday that Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan ordered the blackout of billboards and signs to prevent a possible shortage of fuel.

The order came into effect last night.

The decision was taken in accordance with Article Three of the Fuel Shortage Prevention Executive Decree.

Cinema signboards could be switched on during movie screenings.

Mr Anan said police were assigned to warn the public to strictly comply with the order.

A special meeting of all oil companies and government agencies responsible for energy matters will be held at Government House on Monday.

Prime Minister's Office Minister Kon Thapparangsi, who is in charge of oil affairs, said yesterday the meeting was intended to seek an assurance that there would be adequate and continuous supply during the Gulf crisis.

He said the price of crude oil on the world market had dropped to an average of U.S.$20 a barrel.

But whether the retail prices of oil products will decrease or not depends on the amount in the Oil Fund, he said.

Commenting on the blackout of billboards and signboards in the city which came into effect on Thursday, Minister Kon said that the measure was first introduced by the Government to conserve energy.

More measures have been worked out and will be enforced should the circumstances warrant it, he said.

Newspapers Comment on Outbreak of Gulf War

Thai-Language Editorials

BK1801144591

[Editorial Report] Three Bangkok Thai-language newspapers—MATICHON, THAI RAT, and NAEO NA—on 18 January carry editorials commenting on the outbreak of war in the Gulf.

MATICHON's 1,000-word editorial on page 8, entitled "Stop the War," defends the allied attacks on Iraq 19 hours after the deadline passed. "The war is inevitable. The Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait, claimed as its 19th province, is a blatant violation of the UN Charter, international peace, and order. Iraq's disrespect for international standards has drawn worldwide condemnation," the paper says. The editorial reviews political and diplomatic efforts to persuade Iraq to pull out of Kuwait after its invasion of the country on 2 August, but to no avail. The editorial says that finally, Iraq tried to link its invasion of Kuwait with the Palestinian cause. As all diplomatic attempts failed, there is no other choice left but war, it says.

The editorial says that Iraq was given a long time to think it over before the 15 January deadline expired, but the Iraqi leader remained adamant. "The ongoing war to dislodge Iraq from Kuwait should serve to remind all countries, big or small, that it is impermissible to invade or annex other countries," the paper says, adding that, "No matter how big Iraq is in the Persian Gulf, its strength cannot be compared with that of the United States and its allies put together, backed up by some 28 countries that condemn the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait."

The paper expresses concern that the hostilities could lead to a third world war. It calls on the international community to prevent such a possibility. The editorial concludes: "Every country should resort to dialogue, and not to aggression, to solve its problems. Each should also realize the capability and readiness it has for war instead of insisting on fulfilling a suicide mission just for the sake of obstinacy and one-sided interpretation of the problem."

THAI RAT's 900-word editorial on page 3, entitled "Don't Panic Over the War," expresses concern over economic impacts of the Gulf war on Thailand. The editorial says that there should be no direct and serious effects from the war on Thailand as the hostilities take place far away. It says: "Major countries supplying us with consumer goods are not in the areas of the war. As for oil supplies, we can always get them from other sources, especially from the ASEAN countries. We may only have to prepare for high prices."

The editorial says: "We therefore want to tell the Thai people not to panic too much. They should not heavily withdraw their money from banks or financial institutions as this would disrupt the country's monetary and economic system." The paper also reminds the people that "moral strength as well as good conscience from the entire nation is needed at this moment to safeguard our national economy and monetary system from collapse. The war will only cause difficulties to certain areas. In order to minimize the losses, we must try to keep our conscience clear and firm."

NAEO NA's 800-word editorial on page 4, entitled "Destiny of Iraq," expresses concern that the war would become devastating with possible Israeli intervention as many Arab countries, which are now backing the allies, might switch sides to support Iraq. The paper recalls Israeli prowess in past wars and says that "with Israel, backed by over half a million soldiers of the United States and allied armed forces, with highly sophisticated weaponry massed in the Middle East ready to crush the Iraqi armed forces commanded by President Saddam Husayn, the war would be really devastating." The paper expresses concern for "the millions of Iraqi people who might not have approved the stubborness and aggressive stand of their president." The paper says that it is unlikely that Saddam Husayn can withstand the massive forces of the United States and its allies. With Israel joining the war, the entire Iraqi nation would be at the brink of a real disaster "brought to them by a single man," it says.

Chinese Papers Support Operation

BK1801153191

[Editorial Report] Three Bangkok Chinese-language dailies—ZHONG HUA RIBAO, XING XIAN RIBAO, and XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO—on 18 January carry editorials supporting the mulinational force's operation against Iraq.

ZHONG HUA RIBAO's 700-word editorial on page 5, entitled "No Other Choice Except Staging the War," says that "the Gulf war erupts finally. This is the only choice of the allied force comprising 28 countries led by the United States. The war broke out at 0700 on 17 January Bangkok time, about 19 hours after the UN deadline for Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait." The editorial says that before the deadline, extensive diplomatic efforts had been carried out in order to avert the war but that the Iraqi president did not respond to the efforts. On the contrary, it says, he went to inspect the frontline in Kuwait by himself, stressing that he will not compromise. The editorial adds that Saddam also instructed all soldiers and people to prepare for war and announced that he would command the war by himself.

The editorial concludes by saying, "However, this is a war of justice to oppose aggression and preserve peace since there is no other choice. The allied force has much better strength than the Iraqi force. So, it can end the war as soon as possible in order avoid great losses of lives."

XING XIAN RIBAO'S 600-word editorial on page 1, entitled "The Gulf War Erupts Before Dawn Yesterday," says that according to television reports, the Gulf war erupted at 0300 on 17 January. The war was started by the U.S.-led multinational force by conducting air attacks against strategic spots and oil fields in Iraq.

The editorial says that "After Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, the United States has gradually and consistently sent a large amount of troops and military equipment to the Gulf area and has also prepared to attack Iraq if it is necessary. Although Iraq may also have some nuclear weapons, it will suffer defeat."

XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO'S 700-word editorial on page 1, entitled "The Wise Man Has No Alternative But To Use Force And Weapons," says that following repeated efforts by the international community, Iraq's

Saddam Husayn still insisted on his stubborn stand, refusing to withdraw his troops from Kuwait before the UN deadline. After the UN deadline expired, Saddam paid no attention to the international community's peace efforts by insisting that Kuwait is Iraq's 19th province. The editorial states that in this situation, there are only two choices—to yield to Saddam by accepting Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, or to implement the UN resolution by using force to drive Iraq from Kuwait. It says that yielding to Saddam by accepting his military occupation of Kuwait would have been tantamount to supporting the aggressors, which tramples on international law. It also says that the United Nations Security Council has adopted various resolutions concerning the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, such as condemning Iraq's act of aggression, imposing economic sanctions against Iraq, setting a deadline for Iraq to withdraw its troops, and authorizing the United States and its allies to use force against Iraq if Iraq refuses to withdraw from Kuwait by the deadline. The editorial says that these resolutions reflect the world people's intention to oppose aggression and preserve justice. "As a result, after Saddam stubbornly insisted on his stand by refusing to withdraw from Kuwait, the use of force to drive Iraq from Kuwait cannot be avoided."

The editorial also says that normally, as war causes damage and suffering, it should be opposed, but that it would be an act of justice if there is no alternative to begin the war to oppose the aggressors.

In conclusion, the editorial says that "cornered beasts will still fight. Saddam will certainly retaliate. But it is certain that justice will prevail. Saddam will not be able to escape defeat."

Double Standard Seen

BK2201112891 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 22 Jan 91 p 8

[Editorial: "Another Cause of War"]

[Text] It appears that Thai people throughout the country are enjoying the partly live television reports on the war in the Persian Gulf. A new era of modern, electronic reporting across the globe has begun, giving viewers the impression that they are watching an exciting movie or participating in the war themselves. So far the reports have not mentioned death tolls, only concentrating on the types of weapons used and strategic targets destroyed.

The fact that the reports have not been repulsive is a credit to CNN, but clips of the war wounded will eventually be shown as the ground war takes place when allied forces try to seize Kuwait.

The mass media has generally agreed that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is the cause of the war. He has been labeled a warmonger and said to be nurturing an ambition to lead the Muslim world. His life has been shown on television, and Western psychologists say he has been aggressive and violent since childhood. He has been accused of being a religious fanatic who is trying to bring Muslim nations into the war against the United States and its allies by attempting to link the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait with the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

We agree that it is wrong for Saddam Husayn to send his troops to annex Kuwait. We feel the same way about the U.S. invasion of Panama and Grenada, the Chinese occupation of Tibet, the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, and, most important, the Israeli occupation of the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip.

It is evident that the United States and the United Kingdom have used their power as permanent members of the UN Security Council to legitimize the mobilization of allied forces to expel Iraq from Kuwait, but they never applied such drastic measures against occupation by Israel, China, or the Soviet Union.

In light of this situation, how can anyone expect justice in this world? From another angle, the world body's faulty resolutions that do not treat all sides fairly are to be blamed for Saddam Husayn's mad creation of war.

We wonder if the United Nations can after the present war review its actions so that the world at large will receive fair treatment. If it cannot, there will be more increasingly violent wars. We fear that Saddam Husayn is not the only mad man around; there are more men like him.

Vietnam

Iraqi Envoy: War May Be 'Bloodier' Than Vietnam

BK2201154891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1439 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi, Jan 22 (AFP)—Iraq's top diplomat here said Tuesday that a prolonged conflict in the Gulf would be bloodier for the United States than the Vietnam war.

"If the United States and allies insist on continued attacks (against Iraq and its forces in Kuwait), it will be a more bitter war for the U.S. than in Vietnam," Charge d'Affaires Abbas Fadhil Abid said, adding that he thought the war was likely to stretch out.

More than 55,000 U.S. forces were killed and 300,000 wounded in the Vietnam war, which ended in 1975 with the Hanoi government defeating the U.S.-backed South Vietnam administration. U.S. combat troops were committed to the Vietnam war theatre in 1965, but thousands of advisors had been there before to aid troops of the government that was set up in 1954.

More than 500,000 U.S. servicemen were in Vietnam at the height of the war, in 1968.

Mr. Abid also said the Gulf war could last as long as the Vietnam conflict, saying "if they (the allied forces) continue to attack we are ready to retaliate."

The Arab envoy also stressed that Vietnamese workers and diplomats still in Iraq would be looked after and "there will be facilities to get them out."

The Foreign Ministry here said last week that about 2,000 Vietnamese workers remained in Iraq, of the 16,000 employed there under bilateral pacts before Iraq's August 2 invasion of its tiny, oil-rich neighbour.

Six diplomats, including the ambassador, would remain in Baghdad to keep the embassy running in a country with which Hanoi has good ties, it said.

A ministry spokesman said Tuesday that workers and diplomats still in Iraq were safe, but he failed to mention repatriation, although Vietnam has said they would be brought home soon.

Mr. Abid said the workers, mostly in the construction industry, had been paid cash wages but part of the payment for their services had been used to offset credits extended to Vietnam over the years.

He said "we had not so wide trade relations" before the Gulf crisis and added that this had shrunk to nothing when Vietnam abided by the UN Security Council Resolution 661 imposing trade sanctions on Iraq in August.

Iraq has no investment in this country but had imported items such as carpets, tea, sports goods and agricultural food products to offset Vietnam's debt, he said, adding that he did not know the total amount.

On the subject of terrorist threats, Mr. Abid said: "We feel safe here as we are working in a friendly country. We feel no threat."

"We are doing no harm to anyone here," he said.

Security outside the Iraqi Embassy seemed light, but a British diplomat said security at their mission had been tightened.

Transfer of 962 Workers From Amman Arranged

BK2301090291 Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 23—The Vietnamese representation in Geneva in coordination with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has arranged for the transfer of 962 Vietnamese workers from Amman (Jordan) to Cairo before their return to Vietnam.

On January 20, the Egyptian Embassy in Hanoi informed the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry that the Egyptian Airlines will arrange five flights to bring the workers home. Two of these flights are expected to arrive at Noi Bai Airport on January 23. The same day, the Japanese Government informed Vietnam that it was ready to help repatriate Vietnamese workers from Amman.

The Vietnamese Embassy in Iraq and other international organizations are making urgent arrangements for the repatriation of the remaining Vietnamese workers in Iraq at the earliest date.

Friendship Association Greets Chinese Counterpart

BK2101102291 Hanoi VNA in English 0717 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 21—The Central Committee of the Vietnam-China Friendship Association has sent greetings to its Chinese counterpart on the 41st anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and China.

The message expresses the Vietnamese people's wishes to consolidate the long-standing friendship between the two peoples of Vietnam and China. It also expresses confidence that this traditional friendship will be maintained and developed.

The message wishes the Chinese people still greater successes in building a prosperous and happy country.

Le Duc Anh Sends Greetings to Lao Counterpart

BK2001070691 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 Jan 91

[Text] On the occasion of the 42d founding anniversary of the Lao People's Army—20 January 1949-20 January 1991—General Le Duc Anh, our country's minister of national defense, has sent a congratulatory message to General Khamtai Siphandon, minister of national defense of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Australia

Evans Discusses Effect of Gulf War on Relations

BK2301100591 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 23 Jan 91

[From the program "International Affairs"]

[Text] Australia's foreign affairs minister, Senator Gareth Evans, has downplayed fears that Canberra's commitment to the Gulf conflict could harm relations with Australia's Moslem neighbors. Senator Evans was briefing reporters in Parliament House following government meetings with diplomatic representatives of the countries involved in the war with Iraq. The details from Richard Andrews:

[Begin recording] [Andrews] Australia's prime minister, Mr Hawke, has been meeting with representatives of the 28 countries contributing to the multinational task force in the Gulf and he has handed over transcripts of this week's parliamentary debate which has largely endorsed Australia's military commitment to the war. At the same time, Senator Evans held a similar meeting with the Israeli ambassador. The minister was asked how Australia's Asian neighbors have been reacting to such strongly demonstrated commitment.

[Evans] [words indistinct]) the only countries which expressed outright opposition to the war—Cuba, Yemen, Jordan, I guess, you can say within the United Nations—and outside the United Nations, North Korea. Every other country in the UN, including all the Asian countries, have either participated in the process, supported it in some way, including financially, or acquiesced in it and I guess the reaction of most of our neighbors in the Asian region has been one of either support on the one hand or acquiescence rather than active participation. Now there has certainly been no outright objection.

[Andrews] Senator Evans also denied there are major objections about Australia's military commitment coming from Indonesia—the world's largest Moslem nation.

[Evans] No, I do not believe there are significant levels of disaffection in any country in our region. It is interesting the extent to which even in countries squarely in the Middle East, in respect of which there was some anxiety about levels of domestic defense, the extent to which that defense has been muted and certainly there are no grounds for particular concern so far as any country in our immediate region is concerned, and the way in which the governments have all reacted in the region, I think it is indicative of it.

[Andrews] Pakistan have commited about 12,000 troops to the Gulf despite widespread community support for Saddam Husayn. However, Islamabad is now sending a peace mission in a move which some observers believe could signal a change in the official attitude. Does this mean Australia could lose favor with Pakistan?

[Evans] My understanding with all the various peace initiatives that are running around at the moment—there are four or five of them on the table from the USSR, from Jordan, from Pakistan, and from nonaligned countries, from India—is that each one of them is in fact consistent with the terms of the UN resolution to the extent that each one of them has built upon the premise that nothing can happen until or unless Iraq get out of Kuwait. To that extent, I do not think any of this can be regarded as being symptomatic of any potential crumbling of the international coalition group showing any sign of imminent disposition to undermine the effectiveness and position of the UN resolution. [End recording]

Iraqi Diplomat Rebuked Over Terrorist Threat

BK2301082691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0816 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Canberra, Jan 23 (AFP)—Iraq's top diplomat here was rebuked by the Australian Government Wednesday for what was seen as a terrorist threat against Australia, and warned he could be expelled if the action was repeated, officials said.

The rebuke was given to Iraqi Charge d'Affaires Saad Omran after he was summoned again to the Foreign Affairs Department to receive Australian protests over Iraq's conduct of the Gulf war.

After being called in on Tuesday over Iraq's move to use prisoners of war as human shields at strategic installations, Mr. Omran told reporters Australia would not be a terrorist target because its involvement in the war—three naval ships and medical personnel—was minimal.

"But if Australia increases its involvement in this war and sends more ships and more arms, Iraq calls on all the moslems and Arab people around the world to hit the Americans and its allies' interests," Mr. Oman had said.

Foreign Minister Gareth Evans was later asked by journalists if Mr. Omran would be expelled if he went "that extra degree."

"I think the message was sufficiently clear to him to be able to draw that conclusion and if it wasn't then it should be now on what I have said today," Mr. Evans said. "The charge d'affaires' comments represented the extreme limits for acceptable comments for diplomats in this country," he said.

Mr. Omran had been advised by foreign affairs officials that "such remarks could be interpreted as a threat and were completely unacceptable to the Australian Government," Mr. Evans said. Mr. Omran was also told the government strongly condemned Iraqi missile attacks on civilians in Israel and Saudi Arabia. The officials gave him copies of a parliamentary resolution, passed early Wednesday endorsing Australia's war commitment.

Mr. Omran is Baghdad's most senior official here because former ambassador Afif al-rawi retired in December and has not been replaced.

Earlier, some 28 diplomats were briefed by Prime Minister Bob Hawke on Australia's commitment to the war, including this week's parliamentary debate on the Gulf and the resolution.

At least three government MP's [members of parliament] face possible disciplinary action for abstaining from voting on the resolution.

Funds Allocated To Assist Victims of Gulf War

BK2301061891 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text] Australia has allocated $2 million [currency not further specified] for victims of the war in the Gulf, and the government is telling the United Nations that up to $1 million is being set aside for extra support if it is needed for United Nations plans to help evacuees in the region.

The latest $2 million commitment comes after criticism from groups such as Community Aid Abroad which claim the government was failing to assist refugees in the Gulf. The money will be divided between the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Office of the UN Disaster Relief Coordinator.

Fiji

Multiracial Party Formed To Contest Elections

BK2301051091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0457 GMT 23 Jan 91

[Text], Suva Jan 23 (AFP)—Officials of two formerly staunchly rival parties have united to form Fiji's first multiracial party that will contest general elections in November.

The chairman of the All Nationals Congress (ANC), Mick Beddoes, said Wednesday it considered everything prior to 1987, when the Fijian-led army toppled an Indian-majority government, as history. He described the coming election, which Indian opposition parties have threatened to boycott, as "as a new slate."

The ANC draws its caucus from the now-defunct Alliance Party, which ruled under prime minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara for 17 years until 1987, and the largely Indian-backed National Federation Party (NFP). The NFP formed a coalition with the Fiji Labour Party and won the last 1987 polls.

Mr. Beddoes, a part-European, is backed by Indian leader Hari Kewal, current Fijian cabinet minister Apisai Tora, former Indian NFP president Koresi Matatolu and an indigenous Fijian chief, Ratu Meli Saukuru.

"We think today there is more than ever before a need for a multiracial party that would reunite the races, Fijians, Indians and generals (part-Europeans, Europeans and Chinese)," said Mr. Beddoes. The ANC caucus meets weekly and Mr. Beddoes said, despite a ban on public meetings here under emergency security measures, that "we're holding private meetings around the country and hope to call our first congress before April."

Opposition NFP-FLP leader Adi Kuini Bavadra condemned the ANC however as "a creature of the racist Alliance Party." The opposition has threatened to boycott the coming election in protest against Fiji's new racially oriented constitution which guarantees indiginous Fijians political supremacy over ethnic Indians.

Papua New Guinea

Foreign Minister Condemns Iraqi Attack on Israel

BK1901105091 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0900 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Papua New Guinea has joined other countries in condemning Iraq's attacks on Israel. The foreign minister, Sir Michael Somare, said his government supported the United States-led forces in the Gulf in their attempt to liberate Kuwait. He said the present results in the Gulf resulted from Iraq's failure to listen to peace efforts by the United States, United Nations, and other world leaders.

Sir Michael said Papua New Guinea would comply with the wishes of the United Nations and supported call for an early peace. He said Iraq's cowardly attack on Israel must be condemned in the strongest possible way and Israel must show strength and courage and refrain from retaliation.

Meanwhile, security has been stepped up in Port Moresby and Prime Minister Namaliu has banned all overseas trips by ministers.

Namaliu Hopeful for Success of Talks With BRA

BK2101063491 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Jan 91

[Text] The prime minister of Papua New Guinea, Mr. Rabbie Namaliu, says goods and services to Bougainville will be restored immediately if the second round of peace talks with the Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA] proves successful. Mr. Namaliu says he believed the talks will be more successful than the first round held last year on board a New Zealand ship. This, he says, is because the initiative of the talks was taken by the Bougainville representatives.

The talks are due to open in Honiara, Solomon Islands, later today.

Somare Reports on 1st Day of Talks

BK2201092691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0854 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Honiara, Jan 22 (AFP)—Papua New Guinea [PNG] Foreign Minister Michael Somare said after the first day of peace talks with secessionist Bougainville leaders here Tuesday that he was hopeful of success.

Emerging from the five-hour meeting here in the capital of the neighbouring Solomon Islands, Sir Michael said the day was spent re-establishing dialogue broken after the first round of talks between the two sides.

The meeting also reviewed the endeavour accord, signed on the New Zealand warship HMNZS [Her Majesty's New Zealand Ship] Endeavour in August after the first round of talks, and went through parts of the accord that had not been implemented, he said.

"I'm hopeful that the meeting will be a very successful one and an agreement should be reached by midday tomorrow," he said. The agreement would lay the agenda for the talks.

Bougainville delegation leader Joseph Kabui said: "We haven't clashed yet."

The meeting is expected to resume Wednesday.

Bougainville was the scene of a 16-month secessionist war which claimed more than 80 lives before Port Moresby withdrew its security forces in March. About 20 more deaths were recorded when Port Moresby retook Buka Island off Bougainville in September. The war originated with landowners seeking compensation against a giant copper mine on Bougainville.

Solomon Islands

Bougainville Peace Talks Begin 22 Jan

BK2201054791 Hong Kong AFP in English 0535 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Honiara, Jan 22 (AFP)—The second round of peace talks aimed at ending Papua New Guinea's secessionist conflict on Bougainville Island started here Tuesday, with both sides tight lipped about their negotiation positions.

Security around both Port Moresby's delegation and the nine Bougainville leaders was tight here, the capital of neighbouring Solomon Islands, with media being kept away from the cabinet conference room, the venue for the talks.

The Papua New Guinea delegation is led by Foreign Minister Michael Somare and includes Defence Minister Ben Sabumei, Justice Minister Bernard Narakobi and Provincial Affairs Minister and MP [member of parliament] for Bougainville Father John Momis.

The Bougainville team is being led by suspended premier of the North Solomons Province Joseph Kabui and includes third in rank in the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) James Singko.

Mr. Kabui was leader of the Bougainville delegation in the first round of talks on board the New Zealand Warship HMNZS Endeavour last July and August.

Before entering the talks, leaders of both sides were reluctant to divulge negotiation positions but it is understood Bougainville leaders will ask Port Moresby to pull out its security forces from Buka Island, just off Bougainville.

They are expected to ask for the restoration of services on Bougainville and that an international peace keeping force provide security for workers restoring services. But an official in the Papua New Guinea delegation told reporters that the government would not accept the idea of an international peace keeping force.

Services are being restored to Bougainville after Port Moresby recently lifted the blockade it imposed in may when the BRA declared independence. Bougainville was the scene of a 16-month secessionist war which claimed more than 80 lives before a truce last march. The war's origins trace to landowners seeking compensation against Bougainville's giant copper mine. A further 20 deaths were triggered when Port Moresby retook BRA-held Buka in September.

The talks were postponed a day when the plane carrying the Papua New Guinea delegation had mechanical problems and was forced to return to Port Moresby.